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THE TIMES

Mr Foot–allaying the fears of the doubters, page 16

Dr Kaunda says force by Britain only solution for Rhodesia

resident Kaunda of Zambia esterday called for British military itervention in Rhodesia to overrow the Smith regime and install n executive committee which ould include such "genuine hites" as Mr Garfield Todd and Sir Roy Welensky. In London the Foreign Office said the Government had always been against intervention. In Salisbury Sir Roy Welensky strongly opposed intervention and said he had no part to play on any executive committee.

London against military action

om Roy Lewis
saka, March 29

President Kaunda said here lay that the only role left for itain in the Rhodesian diste after the failure of the ith - Nkomo negotiations uld involve military interven-n.

What was needed was to est all the rebels, dissolve illegal Government and Parment, and install an execue committee with a British irman. This committee uld be representative of all oups and races in Rhodesia, luding freedom fighters, both ngs of the African National uncil, and what he called enuine whites", such as Mr rfield Todd and a repentent Roy Welensky.

r Kaunda contended that tain had the means to ene such measures and only ed the will. *If Britain took action, he would provide ing posts for British forces* Zambia.

he President made it clear he believes there is no rnative to force as Mr mo has exhausted every posity of negotiation and reed the intransigence of Mr h *in his rebellion against* Crown.

one the less he ruled out n mercenary aid to the dom fighters which, he said, d risk repeating the olan situation in Zimbabwe. this decision depended on non-interference of outside s on the Rhodesian side. *also ruled* out participation Zambian or Mozambique s.

s view is that the guerrillas being trained in Mozame and Tanzania but not in bia (about 12,000 is the non estimate here of their er) will be able to force Smith regime to give in. will need only arms, and training by only outside nations.

sked what Mr Nkomo's role was, President Kaunda said would not be "irrelevant" he joined the war. The tion was whether he would still in Rhodesia or conue to the fight by leading sistance which engaged in ities such as *destroying* ges, putting sand in engines, and using phosphorous against cattle. "But I am not giving them a lesson", he added.

The future leadership of the guerrillas depended on whether the leaders of both ANC factions would unite. If not, a new leadership was bound to arise from the cadres of the guerrillas.

Dr Kaunda insisted that there was no détente with South Africa. He had talked with Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, and told him *that if he wanted* peace with black Africa he had to release the African nationalist leaders imprisoned in his own country.

Dr Kaunda does not think South Africa will intervene in Rhodesia since Mr Vorster now knows that such an action would stir up trouble with his own blacks.

On Angola, he said, Unita still had immense support in southern Angola. The MPLA had still to convince Zambia that it was the government of the whole country. South African intervention had won the MPLA recognition from many African countries that would otherwise have withheld it.

The presence of foreign troops supporting the MPLA made Angola's independence dubious and non-alignment impossible. He warned the MPLA that there was no reason to think the Soviet Union would behave differently in an African state from the way it had when it intervened in Czechoslovakia.

His reaction to the remark by Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, that Rhodesia and Namibia were only two places on a map was to ask whether Russia intervened only when blacks were fighting blacks, and was indifferent when blacks fought whites. He called this racialism.

Our Diplomatic Correspondent writes: Commenting on Dr Kaunda's statement, the Foreign Office said the British Government had always set itself against military intervention.

As recently as last month, Mr David Ennals, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, told the Commons that *if Britain could* not contemplate an opposed intervention in Rhodesia in 1965, it could not seriously be contemplated now.

Salisbury, March 29.—Sir Roy Welensky, *former Prime* Minister of the now defunct Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, today opposed the idea of armed intervention in Rhodesia by Britain.

He said: "I can understand Kaunda's frustration at the course of events in Rhodesia, but I hope that both he and South African Prime Minister John Vorster will continue to persevere with their efforts to find a peaceful solution."

Sir Roy said thousands of whites and blacks in Rhodesia wanted a peaceful settlement but "military intervention would lead to bloodshed and this should be avoided."

Any settlement should be worked out by the Rhodesian Government and Rhodesian black nationalist leaders with Britain acting as a conciliator, he said.

He also rejected President Kaunda's suggestion that he should serve on an interim executive committee to be created by Britain once it had removed the Smith Government. "I can't see that I have any part to play", he said. Mr Garfield Todd, who Dr Kaunda suggested should also be a member of the committee, is under house arrest at his farm.

Mr Nkomo, leader of the internal wing of the African National Council, flew to Lusaka from Salisbury today on a sur*prise visit to meet President* Kaunda.—AP.

Dar es Salaam, March 29.—Tanzania's Foreign Minister today suggested a Commonwealth compensation scheme to encourage diehard whites to leave Rhodesia.

Speaking at a press conference, Mr Ibrahim Kaduma spoke of a Commonwealth effort to help those Europeans in Rhodesia "who think it is obnoxious to live under a black government". He added: "Maybe the Commonwealth can assist by establishing some sort of scheme compensating these people to leave. . . ."

The Commonwealth countries might also consider accepting *them as immigrants, he said.*

Torture accusations, page 7

Identity issue in Peter Hain theft case

By Stewart Tendler

A woman bank cashier told a jury at the Central Criminal Court yesterday that she identified Peter Hain, President of the Young Liberals, as a man who snatched £490 from her and fled from a bank in Putney, London, last October.

Mr Hain, aged 25, is charged with the theft of the money from Barclays Bank, Upper Richmond Road, Putney, on October 24. He pleaded not guilty.

Outlining the case for the prosecution, Mr Michael Corkery told the jury: "You might take the view this was a crime committed on the spur of the moment, not premeditated at all", and he warned them to put aside any prejudices for or against Mr Hain.

He added: "This case is not *connected with politics.* There is one simple issue, whether this young man committed the crime of theft."

Mr Corkery said that at 12.55 pm on October 24 last Mrs Lucy Haines was serving bank customers when a man asked her to cash a £10 note. As she took out a bundle of £5 notes the man grabbed them and fled.

Mr Timothy Hayne, an accountant in the bank, gave chase, from Upper Richmond Road down Putney High Street into Werter Road. Halfway down Werter Road the man turned and threw the money at Mr Hayne, saying: "All right, here you are then."

The accountant stopped to pick up the money and was joined in the chase by three boys, aged between 12 and 13.

The boys later saw Mr Hain get out of a Volkswagen car and go into a book shop on the corner of Werter Road. Two of them identified him as the man who had been chased, by the clothes he was wearing, a white check shirt, blue jeans, Hush Puppy shoes, and spectacles.

Mrs Haines in evidence pointed to Mr Hain in the dock and said she helped to make up a Photofit picture about an hour after the robbery, and gave a description of the man as 23 to 25 years old, 5ft 11in tall, of sallow complexion, with dark eyes and dark wavy hair. She thought he was foreign.

She said she picked Mr Hain out at the identification parade because of his features, not his hair. At the parade "the man I saw had shorter hair and seemed thinner looking". The man who stole the money had *longer hair behind the ears than* the one in the Photofit picture.

Cross-examined by Mr Lewis Hawser, QC, for the defence, she denied reading a newspaper left in the bank before the identification parade. The paper had a lead story on the case and included a picture of Mr Hain.

The trial continues today.

Report, page 4

Olympia search: Young children (above) as well as their parents were searched by security men and police yesterday as they waited to enter the Ideal Home Exhibition at Olympia, London, where a bomb exploded at one of the stands on Saturday, injuring 85 people (Clive Borrell writes). More than 20 people hurt in the explosion were still in hospital last night.

Mr Callaghan likely to edge ahead in second ballot tonight

By George Clark
Political Correspondent

With no clear-cut decision expected from the second stage of the Labour leadership ballot when the results are declared tonight, Mr Wilson will make ready for one of his last international tasks as head of the Labour Government, to represent the United Kingdom at the European "summit" meeting in Luxembourg on Thursday and Friday.

Among Labour MPs the general expectation is that Mr Callaghan, Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, will emerge from the third ballot as the successor to Mr Wilson. But in the second ballot neither he nor Mr Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, seem likely to get the 158 votes needed to win a clear majority.

Mr Foot's supporters reckon to have won over to his side between seven and 11 votes from MPs who first voted for Mr Jenkins, the Home Secretary. One who declared his intention to make that switch was Mr Brian Walden, Labour MP for Birmingham, Ladywood.

Thus Mr Foot's campaign managers were still optimistic *that he would* retain his leading position at the end of the second ballot. But the most realistic estimate last night was that both he and Mr Callaghan will get between 135 and 145 votes each, with Mr Callaghan slightly in the lead.

Mr Healey, Chancellor of the Exchequer, seems not to have won the support that he needs to stay in the contest.

He will be eliminated as a poor third. But he will have staked a claim to represent the centre-right of the party in any future election for the Labour leader.

Some MPs in both the Healey and Foot camps were saying last night that Mr Callaghan would probably get 145 votes, with Mr Foot in second place with between 130 and 135 votes.

In that situation, it is argued, Mr Foot may decide to withdraw from the contest and avoid a third ballot, having established the left-wing's posi*tion in a way that has not pre*viously been achieved, and demonstrated his unrivalled claim to be regarded as deputy leader and deputy Prime Minister.

The assumption being made by the Foot camp is that the 40 or so votes likely to be cast for Mr Healey would, in a third and final ballot, almost certainly go straight to Mr Callaghan and give him a clear and unshakeable lead.

If Mr Callaghan eventually wins, Mr Healey would seem to be a likely candidate for the treasurership of the Labour Party. That would give him back the position and influence in the party that he lost when he was thrown off the national executive at the party conference last autumn.

If the contest goes to a third round, voting papers containing the names of the two final candidates will be issued after 8 o'clock tonight. Forms have to be returned by noon on April 5 and the result will be announced at a party meeting *later that day.*

Because the second ballot has been conducted partly by post, there appeared to be a number of votes still outstanding last night. They are expected to arrive this morning either by post or by hand.

The result of the first ballot was: Mr Foot, 90; Mr Callaghan, 84; Mr Jenkins, 56; Mr Wedgwood Benn, 37; Mr Healey, 30; Mr Crosland, 17.

Budget broadcast: Liberal MPs yesterday called for the broadcasting of next month's Budget debate, including the speech by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Led by Mr Thorpe, they signed a motion suggesting that a broadcast would be in the national interest.

Soothing words, page 16

Attempts to rate North Sea rigs will be in vain

By David Leigh and Roger Vielvoye

A futile, if spectacular, attempt is being made by the *rating assessors of Scottish* local authorities to claim huge sums in rates from offshore oil installations.

It is futile because, were pending test cases to succeed, central government have made it clear legislation would be at once brought in to nullify the decision. Hopes by the local authorities for an enormous windfall are considered quite unreasonable by Whitehall, which would, in effect, be faced with an enforced transfer of cash from the United Kingdom Exchequer to the Scottish regions.

Grampian region put in a claim yesterday to assess the ratable value of the Forties field at £8.8m. "*This reflects* the fact that the oilfield is only partly in production", the council said. It came after claims from Fife to have jurisdiction in a similar way over the smaller Auk and Argyll fields.

A hearing at the Court of Session in Edinburgh is pending to determine whether councils have rights over the installations, more than 100 miles out in the North Sea.

Fife will be regarded as a test case by the local authorities and the oil companies. If they succeed, the assessors of other areas such as the highland region and Shetland would want to try to levy rates on

Continued on page 2, col 3

Select committee is set up to consider EEC election details

By Hugh Noyes
Parliamentary Correspondent
Westminster

With all the qualifications and parentheses that befit a potential Prime Minister, Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, told the Commons yesterday that, *subject to Parliament's agreement,* it was the Government's policy to prepare for direct elections to the European Assembly in line with the timetable of other EEC states. Their target date is May or June, 1978.

Opening a two-day debate on the controversial direct elections issue, he said that in the final Community agreement there would be a proposition whereby, if it was found that the United Kingdom for procedural reasons could not hold direct elections by 1978, we would continue to send representatives from the Parliament at Westminster until our national arrangements were settled.

With widespread approval from both sides of the House and from both opponents and supporters of direct elections, Mr Callaghan announced that the Government would set up a select committee, to include a minister or ministers involved in the negotiations. The committee would consider all matters of detail, procedure and organization with the sole exception of the principle of direct elections which was a treaty obligation.

The Government would have to ask the committee to work at a reasonable speed and to gear itself to the Community timetable.

The Foreign Secretary's cautious tone on direct elections met with a reprimand from Mr Maudling, on the Tory front bench, who felt that he was showing an unnecessary lack of enthusiasm. However, he welcomed the establishment of the select committee.

Earlier Mr Callaghan gave an indication of the Government's thinking on some outstanding matters. He agreed that the present assembly was too small and that, with direct elections, a membership of 350 or more would be appropriate.

Under some of the proposals put forward the smaller states would be left with too few members, or even, as in the case of Luxembourg, with none.

He suggested that there must be a minimum number of seats, whatever the size of a state. The United Kingdom must have enough seats to enable adequate representation for all its constituent parts.

The United Kingdom, he *thought, should be in a position to* hold direct elections at the same time as other countries, instead of prolonging the present system, which was a heavy burden on the MPs concerned and added to the difficulties of conducting business at Westminster.

On eligibility, he said the Government did not favour the view that only members of national parliaments should be able to stand for election to the assembly. The Government agreed with the draft convention that candidates would not have to be MPs.

Although not ruling out the prospect of additional powers for the directly elected assembly, Mr Callaghan said that the Government had no plans for giving further powers. If a case was made out, it would be looked at.

Parliamentary report, page 6

Chrysler chief predicts a profit next year

Clifford Webb

hrysler UK has acted with *rising speed to put the* ernment's £162m rescue eme to work. Senior execus revealed yesterday that had already placed conts totalling £26.5m for the uipment of plants at Ryton, wood and Dunstable and the elopment of a new range cars and commercial icles.

ut at Leyland the three toolters' strikes continued, ging the total number of kers laid off to 8,000 and duction losses to more than m.

buoyant Mr Don Lander, naging director of Chrysler and the newly appointed d of Chrysler's whole Euron operation, predicted that this decisive action would enable the company's British *operations to become* marginally profitable in 1977.

He told a press conference at the company's Coventry headquarters there had been criticism that, despite the Government's intervention, the amount of money available was not sufficient to meet the agreed new car and commercial vehicle programme and at the same time modernize and adapt existing production facilities.

"Let me assure you", he continued", that we do have sufficient funds to carry out the programme to which we are committed, and the way it works is this: We have £55m available for capital investment from two loans of £27m and £28m which *the Government* is making available to us, one of which is guaranteed by Chrysler *Corporation, the other being a* charge on Chrysler UK assets.

"In addition Chrysler Corporation is investing up to £12m to bring the Alpine into Ryton and to increase the content manufactured in this country up to 57 per cent of the final costs by the middle of next year."

Mr Lander said much of the cost associated with the new models [details, page 4] was not capital expenditure, but part of Chrysler's normal research and development costs. This additional amount was approaching a further £30m.

Mr George Lacy, deputy managing director, gave a detailed breakdown of the *£26.5m* already committed. He said £6.3m was being spent on tooling and facilities to build *the Alpine at Ryton. A further* £5m was being spent with United Kingdom suppliers.

The Ryton body-building facility was being completely replaced by a suspended gate line system as modern as any in the world.

At Linwood, Renfrewshire, a new enclosed receiving dock was being built to connect the power train plant to the trim and final assembly plant. Completion was set for August.

A new seven-stage body phosphate system and an electrophoretic paint plant were being installed at a cost of £2.2m. Completion was set for next January.

He said these and other

Continued on page 21, col 4

Miss Hearst in court on new charges

Los Angeles, March 29.—Patricia Hearst, aged 22, the newspaper heiress, was arraigned today for trial on 11 charges of kidnapping, robbery and assault. She has already been convicted on another charge of armed bank robbery and is to be sentenced on April 12.

Judge Jack Goertzen today set April 14 as the date for Miss Hearst to enter a plea on the further charges.

During the brief proceedings Miss Hearst did not see William and Emily Harris, "soldiers" of the Symbionese Liberation Army, who are charged with her. At her bank robbery trial, which ended nine days ago, Miss Hearst accused them of torturing and tormenting her after they had helped to abduct her from her flat in Berkeley, *California* on February 4, 1974.

Pale and emotionless, Miss Hearst strode into the courtroom today and stood through most of the proceeding, her fingertips resting on the counsel table in front of her.

Behind her was a bullet-proof glass shield, separating her from spectators and from her parents, Mr and Mrs Randolph Hearst.—AP.

Mervyn Davies fights for life

Mervyn Davies, the captain of the Welsh rugby team, was *fighting* for his life yesterday after being admitted to a Cardiff hospital with a suspected brain haemorrhage. He collapsed during a match between Swansea and Pontypool at Cardiff Arms Park on Sunday.

A neurosurgeon said that he did not think the haemorrhage was caused by playing rugby and *could have happened* at any time. "I think it is unlikely that he will play again," he added.

Report, page 10

Action pledged after criticism over asbestos

Walker, Under-Secretary of State Employment, said yesterday that Health and Safety Executive would e any action necessary after criticism the Ombudsman of the activities of factory inspectorate at an asbestos nt. A long-term survey of the health asbestos workers *was proceeding,* d formation of an advisory comttee to review health risks was being nsidered Page 2

Steel target missed

itish Steel Corporation has failed to et its target for a governmentanced strategic stockpile of semiished steel which was part of the ogramme for industrial revival and signed to reduce dependence on ports Page 21

Balkan cooperation

esident Ceausescu of Romania told urnalists in Athens that by cooperatg the Balkan nations could prevent tervention in their affairs by great wers. He had been holding discusons with Mr Karamanlis, the Greek ime Minister Page 8

Exam plan opposed

he Headmasters' Conference, which presents nearly all public schools, itized the proposals by a Schools ranch working party that O levels nd the Certificate of Secondary Education should be replaced by a common ystem of examination Page 2

Concorde accord: M Marcel Cavaillé, the French Minister of Transport (left), and Mr Gerald Kaufman, British Minister of State for Industry, with a model of Concorde at their talks in Paris on the future of the supersonic airliner. They decided to postpone a decision on further construction plans Page 7

Water rationing call

Water authorities are becoming alarmed at the prospect of severe shortages this year after one of the driest winters for a century. The Anglian authority said that it faced its worst shortage since the war Page 4

Fostering success

An experimental scheme in Kent to foster disturbed adolescents has been a success so far. Of the first 13 young people placed, seven are doing well, three have shown some improvement and two are about the same Page 19

Lebanon left seeks radical reforms

Leftist Muslim forces fought their way to the fringes of the Christian stronghold in the centre of Beirut and the situation was deteriorating hourly. Mr Jumblatt, the leftist leader, who has become the most powerful force in Lebanon, has rejected the reform programme engineered by the Syrians last month and insists on his own radical reforms of the whole political system Page 7

Saudi trade mission

British industry is hoping to win a large share of a £70,000m development programme in Saudi Arabia. A Saudi trade delegation began talks in London at the Departments of Trade and Industry and the Foreign Office Page 21

Secret projects: Secrecy about technical projects should be ended to avoid costly mistakes, the Council for Science and Society suggests 4

Aid for addicts: A hostel has been opened to help woman drug addicts who return to prison because they can find nowhere else to live 4

Seville: Andalusian welcome for King Juan Carlos is seen as a political test 7

Bonn: President Sadat of Egypt begins a two-week tour of five European capitals 7

Belgium: Three-page Special Report on the meeting point for Europe 11-13

Italy arrests general

General Maletti, former counter-espionage chief in Italy, has been arrested and charged with helping the escape of a suspect in the Milan Bombings of 1969, which cost 16 lives Page 7

Minister pledges action on asbestos hazards after Ombudsman's criticism of factory inspectorate

Mr Walker, Under-Secretary of State for Employment, promised yesterday that any necessary action would be taken to lessen dangers in the production of asbestos. He was speaking after the publication of a report by Sir Alan Marre, the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman) criticizing the former factory inspectorate of the Department of Employment over its actions at the Acre Mill, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, an asbestos plant. The report said that there were shortcomings in the way the inspectorate tackled their tasks.

The Health and Safety Executive said yesterday that 51 firms had been prosecuted for 120 contraventions of regulations concerning asbestos which came into force in 1970. Incomplete figures showed that 66 prohibition notices and 15 improvement notices had been imposed on 45 firms to remedy hazards involving asbestos.

As part of a considerable effort to publicize asbestos health risks both to management and workers, more than 150,000 copies of a leaflet, *Asbestos and You*, had been distributed to workers in the industry. Guidance was to be issued shortly about dust arising from the use of sprayed asbestos in buildings.

Mr Walker said in a statement that the Ombudsman's report had performed a most useful function in putting what happened at Acre Mill into perspective.

"I accept his criticisms of this department, and the Chief Inspector of Factories agrees with hindsight that even with the difficulties they then faced they could have enforced the regulations more rigorously", he said.

"However, the findings do not constitute the kind of revelations of gross maladministration and inefficiency which some might have been expecting. The report will be most carefully studied, and if any situation has not already been corrected the Health and Safety Executive, of which the factory inspectorate has been part for the past 15 months, will take the necessary action."

There was no room for complacency, but as the report acknowledged, the health and safety picture concerning the industrial use of asbestos had vastly improved. New regulations which came into force in 1970 to control the health risk from asbestos, backed by stricter hygiene standards for the control of asbestos dust, were being strigently enforced, involving, where appropriate, prosecution.

Those regulations were already being reviewed in the light of the first five years' experience. Since the beginning of 1975 the inspectorate had also made effective use of the power under the Health and Safety at Work Act to impose prohibition and improvement notices on firms to remedy asbestos health and safety hazards.

"Considerable efforts, too, are being made to publicize asbestos health and safety measures among both management and the workforce, and a long-term survey of the health of asbestos workers is under way", he added. "The Health and Safety Commission have made suggestions to other government departments regarding the setting up of an advisory committee to undertake a wide-ranging review of the health risks from asbestos and to make recommendations on any further action which in their view ought to be taken."

Acre Mill, which is now closed, was operated by Cape Asbestos, now Cape Industries Ltd. A company spokesman said yesterday: "In the circumstances we consider it is not appropriate for us to comment on a report that is concerned with the activities of the factory inspectorate."

The original complaint about conditions in the mill came from Mr Thomas Buick, aged 54, a former chargehand there, who suffers from asbestosis. Two other sufferers, who did not work at the mill but lived near by, also complained.

Part of Mr Buick's complaint was that the factory inspectorate failed to carry out on-the-spot inquiries properly. The Ombudsman found that to be so. Officials were not quick enough to warn the mill management of dangers or bring pressure on the question of possible prosecutions, he says.

"I have concluded from my investigation that the quality of the attention given to Acre Mill was not as high as it could and should have been."

In his view there were shortcomings in the way those concerned in the department tackled their tasks over a period. Partly as a result of this, the need for more decisive action was not properly recognized at an earlier date.

Exam plan opposed by public school heads

By Tim Devlin
Education Correspondent

The Headmasters' Conference is the latest of several organizations and individuals to criticize the plan to change the system of examinations at 16 plus by the early 1980s.

The conference, which consists of nearly all the most famous public schools, published yesterday criticisms on a Schools Council working party report in favour of a common system of examination to replace O level, General Certificate of Education (GCE) and the Certificate of Secondary Education (CSE).

The conference sees serious difficulties of examination technique to be overcome before a common system can be seen to be clearly preferable, and says that even if those are overcome the special needs of both the able and those of limited ability will be at risk.

Mr Peter Mason, high master of Manchester Grammar School and chairman of the conference's academic policy committee, said yesterday: "We recognize the case for a common system but we do not want something forced on us which has not been adequately investigated."

Much work was still to be done on a common core examination with different papers for differing kinds of ability. "We are not yet convinced that it would be as effective as the present system. We believe in an evolutionary approach towards a common system of examination at 16 plus and a moratorium on any investigation of possible new examinations at 18 plus."

The Association of Colleges for Further and Higher Education and the Association of Principals of Colleges in a joint paper on March 4 called for more feasibility studies.

The Conservative group of the Inner London Education Authority on March 8 attacked the proposals as bound to lower standards. Next day the Southern Universities Joint Board for School Examinations asked what all the hurry was about and recommended that a new examination structure should be evolved.

On March 11 Professor Mary Warnock, of Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, suggested in *New Society* that the proposed reforms would be disastrous.

On March 17 the Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Board, accusing the Schools Council of trying to railroad a decision throu h, attacked the proposals. Next day the University of London called the plan an "unwarranted interpretation of present evidence".

Mr Craig transformed from hard-line 'loyalist' to articulate moderate

Dublin gains an unexpected ally in Ulster

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

The Government of the Irish Republic has gained any unexpected and important ally in its continuing efforts to convince the Protestant majority in Northern Ireland that it no longer holds any secret design to trick or coerce them into an unwanted partnership.

He is Mr William Craig, leader of the Vanguard Unionist Party, who last week held several historic meetings in Dublin with senior members of the Irish Cabinet, including Mr Cosgrave, the Prime Minister.

Yesterday for the first time Mr Craig outlined in detail the outcome of the talks, which in British eyes have completed his transformation from hard-line "loyalist" to the leading and most articulate spokesman of Protestant moderation in Northern Ireland.

In an interview with *The Times*, Mr Craig expressed his confidence that the Dublin government was fully in support of attempts to reach an agreement on a devolved Ulster government inside the United Kingdom.

"I got the impression, rightly or wrongly, that they would be prepared to do whatever had to be done on their part to make an agreement arrived at in Northern Ireland work and be effective", he said; "also that any institutions we set up would not only be politically recognized but would also be legally recognized, which could, I believe, involve a change in their constitution."

The sections referred to are articles 2 and 3, which claim a territorial right over the whole of Ireland and which have for many years been the cause of deep-rooted loyalist suspicion about the real intentions of Irish governments.

Mr Craig was speaking at his Belfast home, which provides many reminders of the dangers facing all political figures attempting to find some solution to Ulster's continuing bloodshed. In addition to the high fence and the sandbagged secu ity nut, the front door is equipped with a special klaxon intended to disorientate would-be assassins.

He claims to have received no specific threats as a result of the Dublin talks, but is aware that they have increased the daily risks.

"I certainly could not have envisaged similar conversations taking place a year ago", Mr Craig said. "The fact that I was able to do this marks something that I do not want anyone to lose sight of, the fact that the Convention was not a total failure. A lot of what went on in it has resulted in an improved relationship between the loyalist majority in Northern Ireland and the government of the republic."

Much of the time was taken up with discussion of the controversial issue of cross-border security. Mr Craig said yesterday that the most important result was a declaration by Mr Cosgrave that continuing efforts at cooperation with Britain would be aimed at establishing the primacy of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, now a main plank of Westminster policy.

He added that both sides shared a deep concern about the results of an indefinite period of direct rule in Ulster. "I told them that the vacuum this could create would be exceedingly dangerous all round and asked them to use their influence with the British to ensure that it is kept to a minimum", he explained.

Although nothing has been said publicly, the Irish Government is expected to put this point strongly when it next meets representatives of the Social Democratic and Labour Party, the main Roman Catholic grouping in Northern Ireland. It is understood that a meeting in Dublin will be taking place shortly.

In direct contradiction to views expressed recently by Mr Enoch Powell, United Ulster Unionist MP for Down, South, Mr Craig added: "To say that as long as there are Westminster MPs there cannot be a vacuum is to be wholly out of touch with the fears and suspicions which exist and the lack of confidence in established institutions.

"Things have deteriorated quite markedly since the end of the Convention in terms of political reasoning and of hope for the future."

He continued: "Dublin has gone a remarkably long way to improve cooperation on security lines and to tighten up its own laws. I think in some ways they have handled it better than the British Government, particularly over the courts and the steps they are now taking to deal with gangster elements.

"These are particularly relevant in view of the success that the Irish Government has had in cutting down the flow of funds from the US."

Mr Craig also expressed his belief that informal inter-party talks should continue during direct rule, with the Convention being recalled only after positive indications that the necessary agreement on a devolved government had been reached locally.

"I would like to think that the new British Prime Minister will not overlook the need to give a lead in getting some initiative going which will get the parties talking again", he declared.

By lunchtime yesterday Mr Craig had received telephone calls from two influential political figures in Ulster who had not previously approached him, both expressing support for his Dublin initiative. But he recognizes that he still has to regain much lost backing among the powerful Protestant paramilitary groups for his efforts to win a voluntary coalition.

"At present there is a great deal of confusion inside the paramilitary groups", he concluded.

Man found guilty over escort agency

One of the seven accused in the escort agency trial at the Central Criminal Court was found guilty yesterday of living off the earnings of prostitutes. He was Walter Birch, aged 42, of Effra Road, Brixton, London, who had denied the charge. He will be sentenced later.

The unanimous verdict in his case was reached after the jury of 11 men and one woman had been deliberating for more than four hours. The jury foreman told the judge they had not reached a verdict in the case of the other six accused.

The jury were still considering their verdicts when the court rose. They were spending the night at an hotel.

The trial continues today.

Challenge from Labour's left on defence spending

By Our Political Staff

The left-wing *Tribune* group of Labour MPs is tabling an amendment, deploring the Government's defence expenditure, to the motion in the two-day Commons debate on the defence Estimates, which starts tomorrow.

Arms spending remains a contentious subject with Labour's left wing, but the amendment is not thought to signal an impending revolt on Thursday night's vote.

Tribune group leaders explained that most Labour MPs were particularly concerned this week with the matter of the party's leadership, and that since this was otherwise a very quiet week at Westminster, from the point of view of business in the House of Commons, they believed it would be very difficult to organize any mass abstention.

Mr Arthur Latham, the chairman, said last night that the group would be concentrating on gathering signatures for its amendment. He thought any protest abstentions would be by individuals.

The amendment regrets that the Government's statement increases rather than reduces the arms Bill; that it abandons Labour's election commitment to reduce the proportion of Britain's gross national product devoted to arms to the level of the other Nato governments; and that it diverts money and resources that are urgently needed for education, housing, health, social services and re-equipment of industry.

Fine in 'lump' case cut by £175,000

J. Murphy and Sons, the London construction company, convicted in the "lump" tax fraud case last week, had their fine cut by £175,000 at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Judge King-Hamilton, QC, varied the fine from £675,000 to £500,000 after telling counsel that he had based the original fine on an estimated tax loss of £1,500,000, whereas he now accepted it was probably under £1m.

He kept the fine on Murphy's associate company, J. M. Piling Ltd, at £75,000. He agreed that the fine could be paid by instalments. Other sentences remain unchanged.

£250,000 gift to health service

The Western Provident Association, a private health insurance group, is to give a whole-body scanner costing £250,000 to the Bristol Royal Infirmary, a National Health Service hospital.

The scanner, which takes cross-sectional pictures of the body and thus provides much more information than a conventional X-ray machine, is a revolutionary instrument for diagnosing cancer and other conditions. Only one is so far operating in the health service.

Policeman jailed for money thefts

A police warrant officer who pocketed £1,349 in fines paid to him by offenders was jailed for nine months at Liverpool Crown Court yesterday.

Douglas James Montgomery, aged 51, with 28 years' service of Chorlton Close, Childwall, Liverpool, pleaded guilty to four specimen charges and asked for 77 further thefts to be considered.

Appeal for car used by raiders

By Clive Borrell

The police last night appealed to everyone living in south-east England to look out for a car with the registration mark MPP 344 L.

It is thought to be the one used by five armed raiders to escape after shooting dead a security van driver and injuring two of his colleagues on a slip road off the A2 at Dartford, Kent.

"If everyone looked out of their windows just to check, we might find this car. We know that all five men escaped in it with 14 bags of money", a Kent detective said last night.

Police officers investigating the robbery of the Securicor van on Saturday said yesterday that the haul totalled £102,929. The figure was reached from cash slips recorded by several supermarkets and shops which handed their weekend takings to the security officers at midday on Saturday.

The thieves left nearly as much money behind in their haste to escape. Much of what they did steal, however, was in cheques, which will prove valueless to them.

Widow's plea: Mrs Mary Cross, the widow of Mr David Cross, the security guard who was shot dead, appealed yesterday to relatives of the killers (the Press Association reports).

"There must be mothers or wives shielding these men. I beg you to tell the police before anyone else is hurt. There was no need for him to die", she said.

New format for radio programme

BBC Radio's breakfast-time news and current affairs programme, *Today*, is to divide its editorial and technical resources from next Monday to provide simultaneous presentation from London and Manchester.

The programme has always been based in London, but reporters will now spend more time covering events in towns and villages.

Man shot brother three times with a crossbow

From Our Correspondent
Norwich

Anthony Michael Empedocles, aged 28, of Caldecote, Cambridgeshire, who shot his brother through the heart with a bolt from a crossbow after an argument over who should have £40,000 of ancient Greek coins left by their grandfather, was sent to Broadmoor for an indefinite period by Norwich Crown Court yesterday.

The court was told that Mr Empedocles had suspected his elder brother, Philip, aged 36, a professor of chemistry in the United States, of planning to kidnap him for removing the coins from a safe at his mother's house. At a meeting at his home, he shot him three times with the crossbow.

He pleaded guilty to the manslaughter of his brother; his plea of not guilty to murdering him was accepted by the prosecution. Mr George Shindler, for the prosecution, said: "The defendant . . . had developed the fixed idea that Philip intended to kidnap him, and he began to make preparations to kill his brother by buying two crossbows."

Dr Ian Stewart, a psychiatrist, said that Mr Empedocles was suffering from paranoid schizophrenia.

BP to fight rating of oil platforms in North Sea

Continued from page 1

their oilfields. The assessors, who are independent of the local councils, took counsel's advice and decided the legal issue should be tested.

British Petroleum said yesterday that it will resist any attempt to levy rates on its £800m Forties oilfield development. It will contest the principle that offshore oil installations are liable for rates, but initially will await the result of a test case being brought against the concept by Shell and Hamilton Brothers in May.

In no other country are offshore installations liable for local taxes and the company's West Sole gasfield in the southern North Sea off Lincolnshire is not liable for rates.

The four production platforms on the Forties field make no call on local authority services. Supplies needed from outside are brought in by boat and air through onshore bases that already pay rates. BP also pays rates on its onshore oil reception terminal at Cruden Bay, Grampian region.

If BP were faced with a rates bill, the company would inevitably demand to have it set against tax payable to the government. When BP has recouped its outlays in the next two years and is in full production, total tax paid from the Forties field should be of the order of £700m.

The local authorities already get extra cash because of the oil operations. Grampian, for example, received £745,000 last year in extra rate support grant. The Shetlands, which achieved special terms with the oil firms and an Act of Parliament, have a compensatory fund from the companies standing at £3m now and expected to top £40m by the end of the century.

Grampian Regional Council, announcing the assessor's decision yesterday, said he wanted to rate the oilfield and the pipeline to Cruden Bay. He also wanted to rate the land pipeline running south, whose value was assessed at £200,000.

BP would have to pay about £30m total annual rates on the field at existing rate levels. About £9m of that would go to the regional council, whose total rate revenue is around £30m a year.

Mr and Mrs Eric Morecambe at 10 Downing Street last night for Mr Wilson's farewell party to his friends. Diary, page 16.

Appeal plea in pub bombs case

Six Irishmen, each jailed for life on 21 murder charges after the IRA public house bombings in Birmingham, sought leave in the Court of Appeal yesterday to challenge their convictions.

Mr John Field Evans, QC, for three of the men, claimed that the jury's verdicts at Lancaster Crown Court after a trial lasting more than 40 days were unsafe and unsatisfactory, and should be set aside.

Mr Field Evans said: "The judge's grasp of the facts of this case was masterly and he extended to counsel every courtesy, but there are, in my submission, defective features of his summing-up".

The hearing continues today.

Eddie Gallagher to face trial on six charges

Eddie Gallagher, the former Provisional IRA member sentenced to 20 years' imprisonment earlier this month for his part in the kidnapping of Dr Tiede Herrema, the Dutch businessman, appeared again at the Special Criminal Court in Dublin yesterday.

He faced six charges in connexion with incidents in August, 1974, near Portlaoise jail. Mr Gallagher, aged 28, of co Donegal, was in court for less than two minutes before being ordered to the cells for continually interrupting the proceedings. His trial was fixed for October 11.

Mr Laurence Farrell, for the Director of Public Prosecutions, said there might be further charges.

Train driver dies

Mr John Farrer, aged 36, of Carlisle, who was severely injured two weeks ago when a train of which he was codriver hit a lorry that had fallen from a bridge on to the London-Stranraer line, died yesterday.

'Peace campaign growing in Soviet Union'

From Our Correspondent
York

A movement for peace and disarmament is growing within the Soviet Union, it was stated at an international forum on peace in York yesterday.

Conditions were favourable for a step beyond political détente to a more practical form of trust, Mr Alexander Kalyadin, president of the Soviet Peace Committee, said.

Mr Kalyadin, disarmament professor at Moscow University, said the intensifying race for more effective arms was highly dangerous to world peace.

Talking after his speech to 300 delegates at York University, he called for a concentrated campaign for complete disarmament similar to the one in the USSR. "We are waging our campaign for disarmament throughout Russia and the response is very good. We should like agreement between nuclear powers for the limitation and reduction of nuclear weapons.

"The committee is seeking further agreements to stop the testing of nuclear arms. The need for agreement is urgent. Dangerous conflicts are developing in the world, for example, in the Middle East, where a cessation of the arms race would be most welcome."

Mr Abdul Minty, secretary of the British Anti-Apartheid Movement, said the coming year would be crucial for the black nationalist cause in southern Africa. Guerrillas would advance into Rhodesia to seize power from Mr Ian Smith.

"If Rhodesia fares badly in the war, then South Africa will, without doubt, join the conflict." For many years the West had been helping South Africa, including supplying arms and nuclear technology, and some Western states might intervene to protect the vast mineral wealth of South Africa.

Arts grant delay 'extraordinary'

Mr Angus Stirling, deputy secretary-general of the Arts Council, said yesterday that it was "extraordinary" that the Government had not yet indicated the level of grant-in-aid for 1976-77.

He said talks were taking place with the Department of Education and Science with a view to working towards a basis for planning future grants.

Baptist minister made box for use as shoplifter

A Baptist minister made a box with secret compartments to go on shoplifting expeditions, it was stated at Bristol Magistrates' Court yesterday. He cut two slots in the box, one for long-playing records and the other for singles.

The Rev William Victor Welch, aged 48, of St Martin's Road, Knowle, pleaded guilty to two shoplifting charges and a third charge of having the box for use in theft. He asked for three other shoplifting offences to be considered, and was fined a total of £100 and ordered to pay £5 costs.

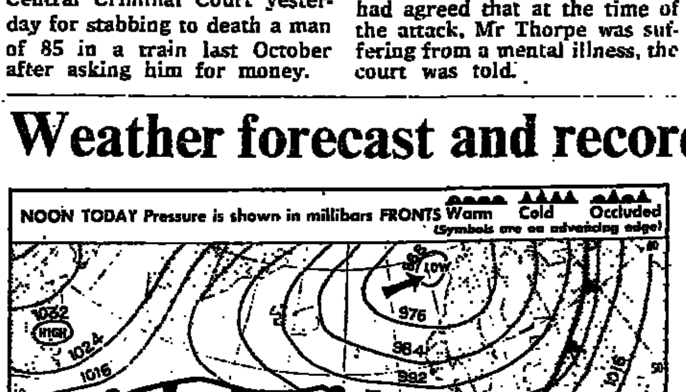
It was stated that when he was questioned by a store detective in Lewis's store, Bristol, Mr Welch ran away but was later caught.

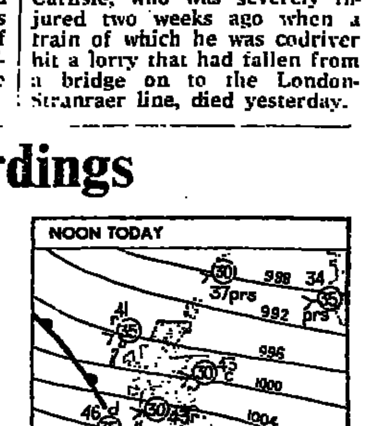
12 years for manslaughter

Carl Thorpe, aged 19, of no fixed address, was sentenced to 12 years' imprisonment at the Central Criminal Court yesterday for stabbing to death a man of 85 in a train last October after asking him for money.

He admitted the manslaughter of Mr Oberto Braga because of diminished responsibility, and the plea was accepted. Doctors had agreed that at the time of the attack, Mr Thorpe was suffering from a mental illness, the court was told.

Weather forecast and recordings





Today

Sun rises: 6.41 am | Sun sets: 7.31 pm
Moon rises: 6.17 am | Moon sets: 7.37 pm

New moon: 6.8 pm.

Lighting up: 8.1 pm to 6.8 am.

High water: London Bridge, 2.39 am, 7.1m (23.4ft); 3.3 pm, 7.3m (23.9ft). Avonmouth, 8.10 am, 12.9m (42.2ft); 8.24 pm, 12.7m (41.8ft). Dover, 12.3 pm, 6.3m (20.8ft). Hull, 7.4 am, 6.9m (22.8ft); 7.7 pm, 7.0m (23.0ft). Liverpool, 12.9 pm, 9.0m (29.6ft).

Pressure will remain high to the S and low to the N of the British Isles.

Area forecasts:

London, SE, SW, E and central S England, East Anglia, Midlands, Channel Isles, S Wales: Dry with bright periods; wind W, fresh or strong; max temp 11°C (52°F).

N. Wales, NW and central N England: Showers and bright periods; wind W, strong; max temp 10°C (50°F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England, Borders, SW Scotland, N Ireland: Rather cloudy, rain at times with snow on hills; wind W, strong to gale; max temp 7°C (45°F).

Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Showers or longer periods of rain with snow on hills; wind W, strong to gale; max temp 5°C (41°F).

Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll, NW Scotland: Showers or longer periods of rain or snow; wind W, strong to gale; max temp 6°C (43°F).

NE Scotland, Orkney and Shetland: Showers or longer periods of rain or snow; wind W, strong to gale; max temp 4°C (39°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Thursday: Showers and sunny intervals in N, with snow over high ground; some rain in S, becoming brighter later; rather cold.

Yesterday

London: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 13°C (55°F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 5°C (41°F). Humidity, 7 pm, 69 per cent. Rain, 24 hr to 7 pm, a trace. Sun, 24 hr to 7 pm, 2.6 hr. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1019.1 millibars, rising.
1,000 millibars = 29.53 in.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY MIDDAY: c, cloud; d, drizzle; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Akrotiri	c	20	68	Copenhgn	c	5	41	Lisbon	s	18	64	Nice	s	16	61
Algiers	c	16	61	Dublin	r	9	48	Locarno	s	16	61	Oslo	f	7	45
Amsterdm	s	8	46	Edinbrgh	r	6	43	London	c	11	52	Paris	s	17	63
Barcelona	s	17	63	Florence	s	19	66	Luxembrg	s	13	55	Reykjavik	s	-2	28
Belfast	r	8	46	Funchal	s	18	65	Madrid	s	17	63	Rome	s	18	64
Berlin	s	15	59	Geneva	s	14	57	Majorca	s	19	66	Ronldswy	s	9	48
Biarritz	s	19	66	Gibraltar	c	17	63	Malaga	s	16	61	Stockhlm	r	5	41
Birmnghm	c	11	52	Guernsey	f	9	48	Malta	f	15	59	Tel Aviv	c	27	81
Bristol	d	9	48	Helsinki	d	2	36	Manchstr	f	9	48	Venice	s	13	55
Brussels	s	10	50	Innsbruck	s	16	61	Moscow	c	6	43	Vienna	s	15	59
Budapest	s	14	57	Istanbul	fog	7	45	Munich	s	14	57	Warsaw	s	14	57
Cardiff	d	8	46	Jersey	c	9	48	Naples	c	13	55	Zurich	s	14	57
Cologne	s	15	59												

Overseas selling prices
Austria, Sch 15; Belgium, B Fr [illegible]; Canaries, Pes 40; Denmark, DKr [illegible]; Finland, Fmk 2.50; France, Frs 2.50; Germany, Dmk 2.00; Greece, Dr [illegible]; Holland, Dfl 1.75; Italy, Lire 450; Luxembourg, Lf 20; Madeira, Esc 17.50; Malta, [illegible]c; Norway, Kr 4.00; Portugal, Esc 20; Spain, Pes 55; Sweden, Skr 3.75; Switzerland, Sfr 2.50; USA/Canada, $1.00; Yugoslavia, Din 20.

Published daily ... Times Newspapers Limited, London WC1X 8EZ. Second Class Postage paid at New York, NY. Subscription US$ ... yearly ... Air Freight ... 201 East 42nd Street, New York, NY 10017. New York Telephone ...
Inland and Air Edition Subscription rates on request.

'Youth service corps' of jobless proposed for Glasgow

From Our Correspondent
Glasgow

As Glasgow councillors yesterday discussed how to persuade families in dangerous tenement buildings to move elsewhere, so that the demolition of old, decaying property, in which the city abounds, can be accelerated, a disturbing report by Professor Gordon Stewart, head of the Department of Community Medicine at Glasgow University, was being studied by the local authority.

The 16-page report describes Glasgow as a slum city, riddled with disease. Professor Stewart maintains that infant mortality there is higher than in any other city in the United Kingdom.

To improve the health and living standards of the citizens, he calls for, among other things, a ban on smoking in theatres and cinemas; measures to ensure earlier detection of disease; stricter control over cleanliness in lavatories, restaurants, food shops and hairdressers'; a special housing programme for the old, sick and homeless; a hygiene register for all homes in the city and a training programme in dental hygiene.

Professor Stewart, who is concerned over Glasgow's unattractive reputation, wants a "youth service corps" set up in the city in which young people would be paid the standard rates of unemployment benefit for their ages. The aim of the corps would be to improve the environment.

It would repair property damaged by vandals, remove graffiti, help the old and sick, remove eyesores, plant trees, help to provide recreational facilities and so on.

Professor Stewart says: "The programme offered will not appeal to the loungers and scroungers who form the hard core of unemployed youth. Some of the proposals are highly contentious, difficult to implement and probably unacceptable in some quarters."

He suggests that money for projects could come from savings in unemployment benefit, by freezing plans for new motorways and by selling council houses to tenants. Savings of more than £500,000 a year could be made by wiping out vandalism, "to say nothing of police expenses and losses from violence", he says.

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Bank cashier says Peter Hain snatched £490

Peter Hain, aged 25, President of the Young Liberals, ran out of a bank with a £490 bundle of £5 notes that he had snatched from a counter in a "spur of the moment" theft, Mr Michael Corkery, for the prosecution, said at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Mr Hain said: "I am not guilty" to the charge of stealing the money from Barclays Bank in Upper Richmond Road, Putney, London, last October 24.

Mr Corkery told the jury of seven women and five men: "The arrest of Mr Hain attracted a great deal of publicity at the time. It also attracted a certain amount of comment in the national press and the media, no doubt because of his activities in the political field."

Mr Corkery asked the jury to disregard whatever they had read or heard outside the court and to cast out of their minds any prejudices or sympathies, political or otherwise.

The case, he continued, was concerned with one simple issue, whether Mr Hain had committed theft. At about 1 pm on the day of the alleged offence, Mr Corkery said, Mr Hain went into Barclays Bank in Upper Richmond Road and asked a cashier for change of a £10 note.

"While the cashier was getting the change ready, he grabbed hold of a bundle of £5 notes from the cashier and ran away."

Mr Hain, whose home in Fawe Park Road was not far from the bank, was chased by an accountant from the bank and also by three boys aged about 12 or 13, counsel said, adding: "The defendant escaped but was recognized shortly afterwards by the same three boys when he was getting out of a car near Smith's bookshop in Putney High Street."

Mr Hain was arrested and identified by the cashier from whom he had taken the notes.

Counsel continued: "When you hear the evidence in this case you may take the view that this is a crime which occurred on the spur of the moment."

In Barclays in Upper Richmond Road the man alleged to be Mr Hain went to till No 5, where the cashier was a Mrs Lucy Haines.

At this point Mr Corkery said there were five names in the case similar to "Hain".

Mrs Haines was given a £10 note by the man, he said. She took a bundle of £5 notes intending to give the man two of them. "Suddenly a man grabbed hold of this bundle of notes from under the grille window and ran out of the bank."

Not unnaturally, Mrs Haines shouted. The man who ran out of the bank was chased by an accountant called Mr Hayne.

Mr Corkery said Mr Hain ran out of the bank with the money and was chased up Putney High Street by Mr Hayne. Mr Hain turned the corner into Werter Road and about halfway down threw the stolen money on to the ground, saying words to the effect: "All right, here you are."

The bank accountant stopped to pick the money up and Mr Hain continued running and disappeared round the corner into Oxford Road, which was the last the accountant saw of him.

The accountant picked up the money and called a taxi but the one-way traffic system prevented the taxi from turning round to pursue Mr Hain.

Mr Corkery said the accountant later described the thief as being 5ft 11in tall, of slim build, with darkish, curly hair and a darkish tint to his skin. Three days after the robbery the accountant attended an identification parade.

"The accountant knew what Peter Hain looked like", counsel added, "and he knew Peter Hain had been arrested. But on the identification parade he was unable to say one way or the other whether Hain was the man he had chased out of the bank. But he did say there was a resemblance."

Three boys had joined in pursuit of the thief but stopped when they reached Putney Bridge Road. They retraced their steps and saw a blue Volkswagen park in Werter Road, near the corner with Putney High Street. They saw the face of the man being chased by the bank accountant and it was the same man they saw getting out of the Volkswagen, Peter Hain, counsel said.

Mr Hain went into W. H. Smith's store and the boys followed.

Mr Corkery said the boys recognized Mr Hain by his clothes, a white check shirt, blue jeans and Hush Puppy shoes, and also by his spectacles. Mr Hain left the store and the boys took his car number and went to the police, who traced the car to 84 Fawe Park Road, Mr Hain's home.

Counsel said Mr Hain was taken to Wandsworth police station, where he told an officer: "I left my car in Werter Road on the yellow line while I bought two typewriter ribbons at W. H. Smith's and I then ran out because I did not want to get into trouble."

Mr Hain's car was later searched and he told the police: "This is a fit up. It's because of who I am." When told of the bank robbery he replied: "What on earth has that got to do with me?"

He was told three boys had seen him in the chase and in his Volkswagen. Mr Hain replied: "Is this a joke or something? This is absolutely incredible. You must be joking."

Mr Corkery said Mr Hain denied that he was the thief, saying he had not even been to the bank, and he was astounded at the suggestion. He was a public figure and it would be stupid to commit such an offence. When charged he said: "I only want to say I am not guilty". He was granted bail.

Mr Corkery added that Mr Hain's fingerprints had not been found on any of the stolen £5 notes. There was laughter when he pointed out that the name of the police fingerprint officer was Mr Haynes and that the police photographer was also a Mr Hayne.

Mr Corkery said Mrs Haines picked out Mr Hain at an identification parade. The only difference was that Mr Hain's hair seemed to be a little more "pushed up" than she remembered.

A Mrs Cooper, who was a customer in the bank, stopped in front of Mr Hain and said: "I can't be positive, but he could have been the man." A cashier, a Miss Shepherd, aged 18, had picked out another man in the parade.

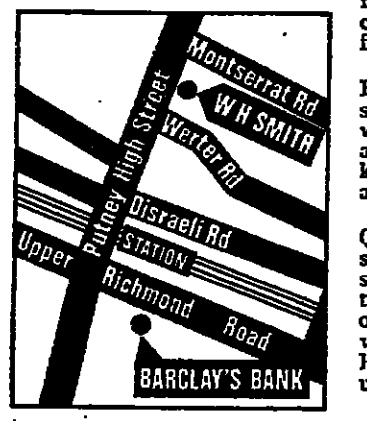
Mr Corkery said: "People can, and do, from time to time make mistakes during identification." There were many difficulties and dangers in it.

Mrs Haines identified Mr Hain in court as the man who stole the money. She said: "It was just a split second. I gave a description to the best of my knowledge. I cannot say it was a good description."

In reply to Mr Lewis Hawser, QC, for the defence, Mrs Haines said the thief had untidy, shoulder-length hair, longer than that of the men she picked out of the identity parade. It was "much longer than Mr Hain's as he now is, and much untidier".

The trial continues today.

Peter Hain and his wife, Patricia, arriving at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.



Water board calls for 'wartime' restraint

By John Young
Planning Reporter

The Anglian Water Authority said yesterday that it faced the worst shortage since the last war and appealed to consumers to conserve supplies. Among its suggestions were that people should revert to the wartime practice of rationing their bathwater to a depth of five inches.

The authority's appeal comes after a spate of warnings from other organizations that stocks in many parts of the country were at an exceptionally low level and that if the dry weather continued severe restrictions might be necessary.

Last week the National Water Council said that the winter just past had been one of the driest of the past 100 years. Because of that, groundwater levels were very low in some areas, and reservoirs and soil moisture levels were generally below normal for the time of year.

An official of the council said yesterday that it would be wrong to talk of a national crisis because shortages were local. There was no difficulties at present in north-west England or in the south-east, for example, but in parts of the West Country, East Anglia and north Yorkshire the situation was quite serious.

The dry winter came after one of the hottest summers on record, and in some places restrictions were imposed as early as last June. But it was presumed then that a normal winter's rainfall would put things right.

Earlier this month the British Waterways Board said that canal locks in England and Wales would be closed at night until further notice. The Association of Pleasure Craft Operators said that some companies were moving their hire boats away from the areas most affected.

The Anglian authority, which has banned the use of hosepipes and sprinklers, said it might have to seek wider powers to abstract more water from rivers. "We are running dry", an official said. "The water level in our reservoirs is still falling at a time when they should be filling up rapidly. We need several weeks of steady rainfall."

The Meteorological Office said last night that its long-range forecast for mid-March to mid-April was that total rainfall would be about average. There were indications that the coming summer would also be an average one, but it was too early yet to make any clear prediction.

Multinational car is planned by Chrysler

By Peter Waymark
Motoring Correspondent

Chrysler said yesterday that it was planning a car which may be built in Britain, France and the United States in 1978. Code named the C2, it would have an engine of about 1100cc and share some component and design features with the company's new American sub-compact, to be launched next year.

The C2 is part of an ambitious international programme which for the British market includes an improved Avenger, a new small hatch-back due for release next year and a medium car which will appear in 1979.

The hatch-back, which is code named the 424, is a rear-wheel-drive small car which will compete with recent models such as the Vauxhall Chevette and the Volkswagen Golf. It supersedes the Hillman Imp, which recently went out of production after nearly 13 years.

The 424 has front end styling similar to that of the Chrysler Alpine, the French model which is to be assembled in Britain this summer under the Government rescue plan. The large tailgate is almost entirely of glass.

There will be a choice of engines, with an uprated version of the light lloy 875cc Imp unit and a 1300 engine from the Avenger. The car will draw on the Avenger for other mechanical components while retaining a distinctive external appearance.

The 424 is to be built alongside the Avenger at Linwood in Scotland and is expected to go on sale in the spring of next year. Chrysler hopes that the car will be a strong contender in European markets.

The autumn will see the first important revision of the Avenger since its introduction six years ago. The restyled body again features a front end similar to that of the Alpine and there are improvements on fuel economy, comfort, safety and refinement.

Meanwhile, present Avenger models are to benefit from the addition of extra items without an increase in price. Front disc brakes become standard on all models and the Super now has twin headlamps, reclining front seats, cloth seat inserts and a cigar lighter. The GL saloon and the estate are discontinued.

The Hunter range, which was to have been phased out this summer, is to remain. As on the Avenger, there are improvements at no extra cost, with the 1725cc engine replacing the 1500 unit on the basic car and the Super being upgraded to the level of the GL.

The Sunbeam Rapier is also discontinued, which means the disappearance of the Sunbeam marque from the British market.

Business News page 21

In brief

Pass rate up for foreign doctors

More than half of the foreign doctors who took the General Medical Council's proficiency test earlier this month—44 out of 86—passed, the best success rate so far. In previous tests three fifths or more of the candidates failed.

The test examines the doctor's medical and linguistic abilities.

Commission reports on charging orders

The Law Commission, in a report, has made proposals to clarify and improve the legal position of creditors who have charging orders on a debtor's land or securities.

Law Commission: Report No 74, Charging Orders. (Command 6412, Stationery Office, 85p.)

Lorry bandits ram door

Bandits stole more than £3,000 yesterday after their lorry had rammed and flattened the steel reinforced door of the post office at The Circle, Kingstanding, Birmingham.

Citizens' information

Humberside County Council yesterday announced a telephone inquiry scheme under which ratepayers' questions concerning council affairs will be answered within 24 hours.

Westminster review of security

By Our Political Staff

Security at the Palace of Westminster will be kept under regular examination by a joint committee of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, it was announced yesterday by Mr Thomas, the Speaker.

He said that the report on security in the palace, produced by Sir James Starritt, former deputy commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, had been considered by a joint committee under the chairmanship of Mr Walter Harrison, deputy chief government whip.

The committee had recommended the establishment of a permanent committee of the two Houses to consider and make recommendations on security at Westminster. Mr Short, Leader of the House of Commons, and the authorities in the Lords had agreed to that and Mr Thomas said he was taking steps to set up the new committee for the duration of the present Parliament. It will have no more than four members from each House.

Concern has been focused on security at Westminster since it was disclosed that an IRA sympathizer had been working on the kitchen staff.

Parliamentary report, page 6

Ship lost when cargo liquefied, inquiry told

Hundreds of thousands of tons of anthracite dust had been exported from South Wales without complaint or suspicion about its seaworthiness and that had led to the assumption that it was not a hazardous cargo, an inquiry was told at Swansea yesterday.

But it had been widely known for years that other cargoes of granulated materials could, when wet, liquefy, Mr M. D. Thomas, for the Department of Trade, said.

He was speaking after the opening of the inquiry into the loss on January 25 last year of the cargo ship Lovat, 60 hours after she left Swansea with 1,355 tonnes of anthracite washed dust from the Cynheidre colliery, 20 miles from Swansea. Eleven of her crew of 13, including the master, lost their lives when she capsized and sank off Land's End in gales.

Investigations into the Lovat's sinking had shown that the dust from Cynheidre colliery was capable of developing a liquefied state if it contained 18 or 19 per cent of water to the total cargo weight. The Lovat's cargo contained so much water that the dust liquefied during the voyage.

Mr Thomas said the Lovat began listing until the chief engineer reported that the engine room was taking water. The life-raft was launched and the master and crew abandoned ship.

But the lower buoyancy tube of the life-raft did not inflate because the fabric was perished as a result of fungal attack and the interior of the raft filled with water. A number of the crew left the life-raft with the intention of floating in the water and holding on to the lifelines.

A helicopter later lifted two survivors from the life-raft, but the rest of the men drowned or died of exposure, Mr Thomas said.

A small Panamanian vessel, the Robert, had sunk on January 22, 1975, after loading at Cardiff anthracite dust that had come from Cynheidre and it seemed likely that the cause of of the ship's loss was the same as the Lovat's, Mr Thomas said.

The previous day, he said, a ship called the Heemskirk began loading similar anthracite dust from the berth in Swansea, which had by then been vacated by the Lovat. But after an hour her master ordered the loading to stop because he felt the cargo was too wet.

Pledge on state control in drug industry condemned

From John Groser
Consumer Affairs Correspondent
Brighton

In reaffirming the Conservative belief in the private sector of industry, Mr Patrick Jenkin, shadow spokesman on health and social services, yesterday urged the Government to reject as absurd its 1974 manifesto pledge to place part of the pharmaceutical industry under the aegis of the National Enterprise Board.

Opening the Interphex conference at Brighton, Mr Jenkin told representatives of the pharmaceutical, cosmetics, and toiletries industries that he could see no reason why the Labour Party should seek to impose its doctrinaire beliefs on an industry that was successful.

He suggested that the Government should allow the industry to get on with the job it already did well. He said that Mr Healey's public expenditure White Paper allowed £950m until 1980 for the board's activities and only last week it had been reported that certain unions were calling for it to take over at least one of the big drug firms.

He asked if the recent records of the British Steel Corporation, British Rail, or the Post Office inspired such confidence in public ownership. Or was it that the collective Labour leadership supposed that a public company would export more? He pointed out that the advances made in Britain in pharmaceuticals were almost wholly the product of the research laboratories of private companies.

He also criticized those "who sought to knock the pharmaceutical industry", and the BBC in particular. Referring to the *Nationwide* consumer unit, he said that it had been roudly condemned by the BBC's programmes complaints commission for being unfair.

"False statements of fact, phoney figures, damaging inuendoes, selective omissions: these are the familiar hallmarks of the slanted, so-called documentaries that have been exposed by the commission."

Mr Jenkin said that no one knew better than he how hard it was to get moderate views into the press or on to television. The industry, none the less, just had to go on trying. Its very survival might in the end depend on it.

One of the main topics of discussion at the conference was child-resistant packaging and sterile production. Despite efforts by the British Standards Institution manufacturers and consumers are concerned about Britain's lack of progress.

Speakers from the United States, including Dr Anthony Temple, of Utah University, said that considerable opposition was encountered when legislation on such packaging was introduced there.

Dr Temple said that since the use of child-resistant packaging had been made compulsory there had been a 43 per cent decrease in the poisoning of children.

The most recent figures for Britain show that more than 15,000 children under five are admitted to hospital annually suffering from accidental poisoning and that in the past decade there has been an annual death rate of at least 24.

Dr Temple said that research and implementation of legislation were inevitably expensive. "Children have to be protected against poisoning from pharmaceutical products and if you take this as a premise then the cost is not all that great."

Councillor on plot and forgery charges

From Our Correspondent
Stoke-on-Trent

Leslie Madden, a Cannock Chase district councillor, has been charged with conspiracy and is to appear before magistrates at Rugeley, Staffordshire, on April 23, with George Newman, leader of Staffordshire County Council, and Jack Nicklin, who will face conspiracy and forgery charges.

Mr Madden, of Garden Drive, Brereton, Rugeley, is alleged to have conspired with Mr Newman to conceal offences under the Local Government Act. He is also said to have uttered a forged document purporting to be a letter from Mr Newman to himself.

Mr Newman, aged 70, of Chadsfield Road, Rugeley, was charged last week with 17 offences of corruption, which are alleged to have involved his receiving a car and money. He is a retired coal industry welfare officer and is also chairman of the county police authority.

Mr Nicklin, of Gorse Lane, Brereton, faces 14 charges involving corruption in which it is alleged he gave money to Councillor Newman.

Helping former prisoners who drift back to Holloway in a search for the community life they miss outside

Alternative to jail for drug addicts

By Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent

Drug addicts who return voluntarily to Holloway prison for support because they can find nowhere suitable elsewhere are being given an alternative. A new hostel, provided with help from the Methodist Church, has its first two occupants. There will be room for a few others, and efforts are being made to find other accommodation.

The former prisoners have been drifting back to Holloway, either voluntarily on visits seeking the community life they lack, or compulsorily because they cannot keep out of trouble and have been sent to prison by the courts.

Although the drug unit has existed in the prison for three years, there has been no hostel, prerelease or otherwise, associated with it, to give the former prisoners the sort of help they need, including ties of friendship formed inside.

About 40 girls pass through the drug unit each year. They come from widely different social backgrounds. Often they have left quarrelling parents or broken homes, and many have been on drugs since their early teens, seeking escape from a reality they find too harsh.

One of the ironies of their plight is that, in comparison with the horrors of the outside world, even prison can seem a haven. Middle-aged prison officers find themselves being called "mum" or "gran". Prisoners are encouraged to help with the routine. Some of them work in the kitchen, planning menus and preparing food.

This alternative family many of them miss when the doors of Holloway shut behind them. Not that they do not want freedom; but it brings pressures and choices with which they find it hard to cope.

Recidivism among those from the unit is high. Staff do not expect miracle cures and reckon that if a spell in the unit can help prisoners to cope a little longer outside than they would have, that can be called progress. But it is accepted that nearly all will try drugs again sooner or later. It is what they then decide to do that matters.

The most pointed lesson offered by the experience of the drug unit is that the modern cliché of "treatment in the community" does not mean very much if the only community that matters is inside the prison. There is a case, instead, for removing the barrier of the prison wall, not simply so that people can come out more easily, but so that those who need to go in for help can do so without the stigma of the prison sentence.

"Hold-up", a charity, has made a small start with its first hostel. A Home Office grant has been applied for. As the residents will pay £7 a week for bed and Continental breakfast, and will have to pay more for anything extra they need, it seems to be a real alternative to costly prison, but a continuation, in a better setting, of what former prisoners need.

Council public relations head suspended

Mr Joe Cooper, aged 48, head of the public relations department of Greater Manchester Metropolitan County Council, has been suspended from duty.

A report on the suspension will be made to the council's policy committee in a fortnight's time

Mr Geoffrey Tideswell, the county secretary, said yesterday that there was no question of disciplinary action being taken against Mr Cooper until the outcome of charges against other individuals was known.

Greater Manchester police said yesterday that inquiries were taking place in relation to certain items of equipment owned by the county council. A senior officer said that the investigation into council property arose during inquiries into a case against a man who has been charged and is due to appear before magistrates next month.

Tories should not spell out plans MP says

By Our Political Staff

The Conservative Party should resist well intentioned pressures to spell out in detail what it would do when it won a general election, Mr Ronald Bell, QC, Conservative MP for Beaconsfield, said yesterday. There were those who pressed constantly for an elaboration of Conservative policies, but he believed "intentions that never emerge from fine phrases into actions are useless, and even harmful".

"The need of our country is not for blueprints but for the awakening of the latent spiritual strength", he said.

Churches for auction

Five redundant Methodist churches in the East Dereham area of Norfolk are to be auctioned on April 30. They are expected to be converted into homes.

Pupils are sent home as teachers widen campaign

By Our Education Correspondent

Action by the two biggest teaching unions to counter teacher unemployment the National Union of Teachers extended to Devon and to Oldham, Lancashire, its campaign of refusing to cover for teachers who are absent for more than three days.

For some weeks it has been operating the policy in the Leicestershire and Sandwell education areas. Mr Henry Clorther, director of the union's publicity, said that a few schools were having to send pupils home in Leicestershire.

The campaign is having more effect in Sandwell. Miss M. Harrison, education officer for schools priority, said that quite a number of schools were having to send children home for some hours a week.

At least three schools found it more convenient to close for an afternoon. One of them, Heathfield High School, at Cradley Heath, Worcestershire, sent all 860 pupils home after 2.30 pm yesterday.

The National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers is also likely to intensify its campaign after its annual conference at Blackpool next month. Its members are refusing to cover for absent colleagues in 12 areas, including Sandwell, Leicester and Devon.

Its conference is likely to approve new national guidelines for action wherever classes exceed 30 in secondary schools and 35 in primary schools.

Naming of more 'moderate' candidates angers union

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Staff

Conservative Central Office plans to compile a list of "moderate" candidates in elections to the Society of Civil Servants, bringing to six the number of unions in which it will have named the candidates it favours.

The move brought immediate condemnation yesterday from the union, which represents nearly 100,000 middle-grade civil servants. Mr Alan Shute, assistant general secretary, said it was an "unwarranted interference" in the union's interal affairs.

But there was strenuous defence of the action from Mr John Bowis, head of the trades union department at Conservative Central Office. He said he had received about a dozen letters asking for information about forthcoming elections in the union; there was a clear demand for more details about the candidates.

It was unlikely that information would be widely distributed because there was not time to compile a comprehensive list of moderate candidates, he said. But it woul dbe available to anybody who asked for it.

The list will relate to the election of 21 members to the executive council, to be held at the annual conference in May. There are about forty candi dates, fewer than usual.

Since September the Conservative Party has been working to activate its supporters within trade unions; it says that a third of trade unionists vote Tory and that there is a good measure of tacit support among senior union officials.

But Central Office's action has angered some union officials. The Civil and Public Services Association, the biggest Civil Service union, has complained about the list of "moderates" drawn up for its elections.

Balloting ended yesterday for 23 key posts in the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, Britain's second biggest unio. Cetral nOffice ad named 27 moderate candidates and distributed the list to constituency agents and officials of the Conservative trade unionist organization. The results will be declared in three or four weeks.

Other unions for which Central Office has made, or plans to make, lists are the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunication and Plumbing Union, the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs, ad the National and Local Government Officers' Association.

Exchange of ideas vital for urban transport plans

From Ronald Kershaw
Leeds

Urban transport planning must be based on financial realism, Mr Marks, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of the Environment, said yesterday.

He told a conference on the subject at Leeds University: "We are dependent on the soundness of judgment of local politicians and they in turn are dependent on the soundness of the advice they receive."

Mr Marks spent the day studying the region's difficulties posed by transport planners from government departments, research centres and universities at the Leeds University Institute for Transport Studies.

He told guests at a dinner last night that because of the ever-changing pattern of car ownership and of commercial and industrial activity, while short-term considerations should be complemented by examination of longer-term issues, the starting point was no longer a time horizon of 15 or 20 years.

The Government's consultative document on transport policy, due shortly, would form a basis for discussing the main direction to take. He hoped there would be plenty of informal discussion at all levels by experts and laymen.

The minister said: "This conference is concerned with the techniques needed to assist urban transport planners to understand, to interpret what they find and to plan.

"At a deeper level we look to the universities to advance our understanding. It is a complicated field. But unless planners get their assumptions right, local transport planning cannot succeed. Discussion and exchange of ideas are crucial."

Listed building to go

The Anglian Water Authority has been given consent to demolish an obsolete steam pumping station at Elkesley, Nottinghamshire, which is a listed building. The Government does not consider it of sufficient architectural merit to justify retention.

Correction

Lady Onslow, widow of Sir Richard Onslow, whose home in Belfast was damaged by a bomb, was incorrectly described yesterday as the daughter of Pamela Lady Onslow.

Pamela Lady Onslow asks us to state that neither she nor her daughter, Lady Teresa Waugh, has ever owned property in Northern Ireland or the republic.

Call to end secrecy on big technical projects

By Pearce Wright
Science Editor

A new procedure for assessing the impact on society of big technical projects, whether they are new roads, airports, hazardous factories or nuclear power plants, is proposed in a report published yesterday.

It suggests public examination of complicated issues, which is virtually impossible under existing conditions because the technical information is monopolized by government departments and industries intent on keeping it confidential.

The report, *Superstar Technologies*, is the first of a series in preparation by the Council for Science and Society. The organization, formed to study the impact of advances in science and technology and to stimulate public questioning, is under the chairmanship of Sir Michael Swann, FRS. The vice-chairman, Mr Paul Sieghart, is a barrister.

The impact of large-scale technical projects was the first priority because of disquiet at the increasing cost of mistakes that might have been disclosed at the planning stage by monitoring.

The working party which prepared the report emphasized that "monitoring" did not mean "prevention". Simple costs and hazards were always easier to predict than complex and uncertain benefits.

But it accepted that schemes such as roads, airfields and industrial developments that might be hazardous were bound to raise objections. People in every location would say: "Put it somewhere else."

The prospect of long and costly tests and public debates might discourage innovation. Indeed, some people would welcome a deceleration of technical progress.

A parallel was drawn with some of the older professions, such as medicine and architecture, in which the moral and legal responsibilities of individual practitioners had been reinforced by the licensing regulations of professional organizations.

There was insistence on minimum standards of expertise and a code of good practice. Such codes, although often defective in that they protected conventional and conservative technical procedures against innovation, provided for punitive sanctions for shoddy or fraudulent work. Thus at least a minimum standard of public safety was maintained. That was still the first line of protection in traditional industries.

However, so many new techniques were being introduced by groups of experts outside the qualified professions that the responsibility for enforcing personal standards could no longer be fully carried by the existing licensing authorities.

Government agencies designed to monitor were not equipped to control the wider effects of modern technology, in the view of the council working party. To overcome the serious obstacle of getting action by groups of concerned citizens, the report suggested the need for a technology implications committee.

It would open the necessary files of technical information that were now secret and provide the technical expertise to assess that information.

Cavity wall insulation. The facts.

Did you know that about a third of your home's heat can leak out through the walls? An expensive waste you'll agree. One way of reducing the waste that may be suitable for your house is cavity wall insulation. Any questions?

Why build walls with cavities in the first place?

Primarily to keep damp out of the inside of houses. In fact this is such an effective way of preventing dampness that nearly all houses built since 1945 have cavity walls (not to mention some dating from before the 1920s).

How does cavity wall insulation work?

Foam, mineral fibre or other suitable insulating material is injected, under pressure, into the wall cavity through holes drilled in the outer wall. This forms a barrier to reduce the rate at which heat escapes. The whole process is clean, usually leaves little trace and takes in most cases less than a day. Properly done to suitable houses this gives a wall that still keeps damp *out* but now keeps the heat *in* much more effectively.

Is your house suitable?

Your installer should be able to advise you. Account needs to be taken of the construction and condition of the walls, and of their exposure to weather.

Is any formal permission needed?

It depends where you live. *In England and Wales generally* cavity filling comes under the building regulations, certain of which have to be relaxed to allow it to go ahead.

The Government has given a general relaxation for cavity filling of most types of private houses provided that the work is to be done in accordance with a certificate issued by the Agrément Board (the Board assesses products and techniques used in the building industry). But the installer must first notify the local council, so that they can decide whether the general relaxation applies.

Where there is no Agrément Board certificate, or if the council has decided that the general relaxation does not apply, an application needs to be made to the council for an individual relaxation of the regulations to allow the work to go ahead. Installers often do this for their customers.

In *Inner London* the district surveyor for the district concerned should be notified before the work is begun.

In *Scotland* formal approval may not be needed, but you are advised to consult your building control officer before work is started.

What about guarantees?

Many major installers give guarantees of about 20-30 years. Look hard at the guarantee and the reliability of the company giving it.

What's it all going to cost?

For an average home, cavity wall insulation will cost between £100 and £250. Many companies allow you to spread repayments so that your savings in heating costs can help pay for the installation. You may find that you can add the cost to your mortgage.

And how much will it save?

SAVE IT

If you live in a three-bedroom semi-detached house which is uninsulated but which has full central heating, then your heating costs could be cut by up to about a fifth. So, if you are spending £120 a year on heating you could be saving some £25 (and more, as fuel prices rise).

How do you take the first step?

Look in your Yellow Pages Directory under Insulation Contractors for the names of local installers.

Department of Energy.

PARLIAMENT, March 29, 1976

Soundings from MPs on choice of next Serjeant at Arms

House of Commons

Mr William Hamilton (Central Fife, Lab) asked whether the Lord President of the Council would take steps to ensure that any employment vacancies occurring within the Houses of Parliament, whatever their status, should be properly advertised in employment exchanges and other appropriate places.

Mr Edward Short (Newcastle upon Tyne, Central, Lab)—Most employment vacancies in the House of Commons departments are already notified to employment exchanges and they are usually also advertised in the national or local press as appropriate.

The procedure for filling vacancies in the staff of the House of Lords and of other departments and organizations within the Houses of Parliament is a matter for the particular authorities concerned.

Mr Hamilton—If that is the case, how many Serjeants at Arms have been pneumoconiotic miners?

There is a feeling among MPs that they have inadequate control over the recruitment methods in this House and that there is still priority given to ex-military personnel, and that this ought to be remedied quickly.

Mr Short—I did say most of the employment vacancies in the House of Commons were filled in the way I said.

There are one or two exceptions and the Serjeant at Arms is one of them, because the Serjeant at Arms is not an official of the House but an officer of the Royal Household and the appointment is in the gift of the Queen.

Mr Hamilton—That's the trouble.

Mr Short—In 1962 the then Prime Minister announced procedures under which in respect of any future appointments the Queen will, before exercising her prerogative, have informal discussions with the Speaker who will take soundings in any matter which may be convenient to enable him to inform the Queen of any feelings there may be in the House.

Recently Mr Arthur Bottomley (Teesside, Middlesbrough, Lab) chaired a committee on this matter and his committee hope that you, Mr Speaker, would find it convenient to take soundings on this matter from your commission as well as MPs.

Mr Nicholas Ridley (Cirencester and Tewkesbury, C)—One particular vacancy arising in the Houses of Parliament has been over-advertised in the press. All applicants so far seem to be totally unsuitable. (Laughter.)

Mr Hamilton—At least it was advertised.

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab)—Will he have discussions in relation to the whole question of public appointments as to whether in the House or elsewhere it is time that this great tome, the book of the great and the good, was got rid of, and where we got to the stage where people actually applied for joys, as with local authorities, and where we look at the background of them and finally decide on merit rather than who their fathers and mothers are?

Mr Short—Mr Bottomley's committee considered these appointments and decided to recommend no change.

Post Office likely to make modest profit

Mr John Stonehouse (Walsall, North, Lab) asked what was the anticipated deficit in the Post Office for the current year, and what changes in tariffs in telecommunications and postal services were expected in consequence.

Mr Gregor Mackenzie, Minister of State for Industry (Rutherglen, Lab)—Present indications are that the Post Office will make a modest profit in the current financial year.

Proposals for increases in inland postal charges to take effect early in 1976-77 have been made to the Price Commission. In addition, some overseas postal prices are being increased to meet payments to other countries under new universal tariff regulations.

Mr Stonehouse—While welcoming that there will be a small surplus, the two main reasons for setting up the Post Office Corporation eight years ago were to achieve greater efficiency and closer touch with consumers. Neither of these objectives have yet been achieved. The minister cannot afford to stand aside and allow the Post Office to continue to decline and become more inefficient in the way it is doing.

Mr Mackenzie—No one knows the Post Office Act better than Mr Stonehouse who put it through the House. He will know one of the reasons we do not interfere is because it was implicit in that Act that there should be a measure of commercial freedom given to the Post Office. We do not believe that the Post Office is less efficient than it was when he was Postmaster General.

During other exchanges, Mr Toby Jessel (Twickenham, C) said: The Post Office has already to some extent priced itself out of the market with its exorbitant charges. Why does Mr Mackenzie not make more use of the powers he has? If they are not sufficient, he should seek more in the public interest to control charges.

Mr Mackenzie—There are limitations to the Price Code. There are no powers in the Post Office Act to allow me to interfere.

Mr Arthur Lewis (Newham, North-West, Lab)—Fifty years ago, with no modern appliances, electronic machines, cars, fast trains and the rest we had a faster and better service for the equivalent of a penny or three halfpence.

Mr Mackenzie—We have a good postal service which compares favourably with many other countries in western Europe.

Mr Tom King, an Opposition spokesman on industry (Bridgwater, C)—Increases in telegram prices resulted in a fall in traffic of 40 per cent. It is clear that proposed increases for parcels are likely to end in no parcel service—a fear expressed by the union leaders. Can he stand aside in this situation?

Mr Mackenzie—I have to be guided by the Post Office Act. Parcels and representations about them have been considered by the Secretary of State (Mr Varley).

Government willing to set up select committee to study all imp'ications of direct elections to European Assembly

The Euro, ouncil's intention, expresse s last meeting in December, t ize the text of the draft conv n for direct elections in Apri. was the latest example of the tendency to be over-optimistic about how long each stage of this complicated process would take, Mr James Callaghan, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs (Cardiff, South-East, Lab), said, when he opened a two-day debate on direct elections to the European Parliament.

There seems to be no prospect of finalizing the convention at that time (he said) but the Council will wish to make what progress it can and some matters will come up for discussion and, if possible, agreement.

He said that the Assembly now was made up of delegates nominated by national Parliaments from among their own members. By and large, national delegations represented the party balance.

It had always been intended to change to direct elections, but for 18 years there had been no general agreement. A change of policy by the French Government in 1974 had made the prospect seem attainable.

The key points of the report Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Council of Ministers to this week's meeting of the European Council on direct elections to the European Assembly were the size, the distribution of seats between member countries, the exact date of the first election, in 1978, if elections take place then, and whether the draft convention should refer to the institution as the European Parliament, or as the Assembly.

In addition to this report, the Council would have a much more detailed report by a working committee of the Council of Ministers containing a number of disagreed points. He had published in *Hansard* a summary of this report.

The Prime Minister and he would be grateful to know how the minds of MPs were moving on the matter.

The present Assembly of 198 was small to represent a Community of 250 million people and it was generally accepted that when the Assembly was directly elected it should be considerably enlarged. He did not dissent from that view. He would like to hear the views of MPs on the figure of 350 which was put forward.

The French Government had put forward a proposal which would go a long way in relating the number of seats to the size of the population of member states. This would drastically cut the representation of the smaller member states.

At the other extreme, the Irish Government had put forward a proposal designed to safeguard the favourable share of seats they secured in the Treaty of Accession. If there was to be agreement, there would have to be some compromise. It seemed fair that there should be a minimum number of seats, however small a state was.

The United Kingdom clearly needed enough seats for adequate representation of the constituent parts of the United Kingdom. He had had the importance of a fair share for Wales and Scotland in mind from the beginning.

The figures proposed by the European Parliament were simply not good enough from this point of view. There was no particular number of seats which could be claimed as self evident for the United Kingdom. The Government sought a solution which tended further towards relating the number of seats allocated to each country to the size of its population.

The fact that the smaller states felt the need of more than proportionate representation in the Assembly pointed our the advantage of being part of a bigger member state. Scottish and Welsh interests were more powerfully represented in the Community as part of the United Kingdom than they could ever be as small separate states.

Apart from the Danes there was wide consensus among the other states on holding elections at approximately the same time throughout the Community. In Rome last year the heads of Government agreed that elections should take place in May or June, 1978.

There was a genuine need for the peoples in the member states to be identified with the Community in some way. It was often accused, he thought with justification, of being bureaucratic and remote. The electors should have an opportunity of expressing their views on questions concerning the Community.

It would be as well if the United Kingdom was in a position to hold elections when the other countries were in a position to do so rather than to prolong the existing system, which was a heavy burden on the individual MPs concerned and which added to the problems of conducting business in Westminster. The Government did not have to commit themselves at this stage on signing the draft convention on this matter.

The majority of states did not favour the view that only members of the national parliaments should be eligible for election to the Assembly. The Government did not favour this view either. Under the draft convention members of national Parliaments would be free to stand for the European Assembly but candidates would not necessarily have to be MPs.

He did not see any prospect of the European Council being able to settle the outstanding matters at this meeting but they would try to make progress, at least on those he had mentioned. After that, they were likely to refer the matter back to foreign ministers. It was possible the matter would go back to the European Council in a final form for the July meeting.

Britain was involved in a process of negotiations, making it difficult for Parliament to control what was going on. But we shall try as a Government (he said) to get terms which suit this country. But we recognize that we cannot hope to get our way on everything.

The convention, when it comes, which might be after July, would be subject to ratification. This was *the prerogative of the Crown* rather than Parliament, though the convention would be laid before Parliament.

Within 21 days a negative motion could be moved. The Government would intend to seek Parliament's approval by a draft Order in Council by affirmative resolution of both Houses. This would be done after signature and before ratification.

Sir Anthony Royle (Richmond upon Thames, Richmond, C)—If this is concluded on the timescale he mentioned and agreement is reached in July at the European Council meeting, does this mean he anticipates that the 1978 deadline can be met?

Mr Callaghan—I prefer not to give an opinion on that. It depends on the degree of priorities given as a *matter of legislation*. July is getting late in the parliamentary year and the other domestic preoccupations have to be fulfilled.

I cannot give an answer except to say I have found this House can do anything it wishes if it sets its mind to do it.

There was much interest in Parliament in all these matters, if not outside.

The Government were prepared to set up a select committee of the House if MPs desired. (Cheers.) He did not wish to give terms of reference at the beginning of the debate. It would be sensible to hear MPs' points and then perhaps, after discussion, to discuss terms of reference and being forward a motion at that stage, setting up the committee.

The committee could cover every issue he had raised except that of the treaty obligation to hold such elections. As the Government would be working in parallel with the committee, it would be sensible and helpful to the Government and committee if a Government minister or ministers were part of the committee; ministers who would be concerned with affairs as they were being negotiated.

This way there could be a cross-fertilization. The Government would have to ask the committee to work at reasonable speed, and ask them to gear their work to the timetable.

The select committee would take their own decisions on procedure but he suggested they might think it convenient to split the subject into two parts and deal with those matters first which need to be decided in the Community. Then it might, at greater leisure, consider important decisions left for national decision.

My conclusion on this (he said) *is that subject to carrying Parliament with them*, and I hope the House will agree that I have done my best to carry Parliament with it at all stages, it is the Government's policy to prepare so that we are ready to go ahead with direct elections when other member states are also ready. That is the basis on which we start.

What of the future after direct elections? There was a view, which he shared, that when people were directly elected they had rather more legitimacy than those nominated by Parliament and that they would therefore call for greater powers.

The prospect could not be ruled out of the Assembly getting additional powers. There were tasks which could be better done on a European basis rather than a national basis but what they were would have to be decided. It would be a foolish government to commit themselves to passing over powers. Instead it would be a constant process of negotiation and discussion.

The Government had no plans for giving the Assembly further powers as such but if a case was made, it would be looked at.

The Commission at the moment put forward proposals on which the Council of Ministers took a decision and followed the general ideas often hammered out among ministers and on occasion by the heads of governments themselves. Above all, it provided the executive machinery of the Community and it was in the Council of Ministers itself that the important decisions were taken. There was no prospect of that changing in the foreseeable future.

The most significant change in the Community's structure over the past few years had been the establishment of the European Council, the regular forum in which the heads of government now met. There was no doubt that those meetings had emphasized the extent to which national governments had the final say.

It was hoped that the Tindemans report would reassure those who were still concerned that Europe was irrevocably set on a federalist course. They should be brought up to the reality of what was happening.

It was feared by some that the European Assembly would be a rival to Westminster. I see no danger of this in reality (he went on) and I think that those who fear it are underrating the traditions that lie so deeply rooted in Westminster.

Parliament at Westminster must remain the ultimate source of constitutional authority for the United Kingdom as a whole. By deciding on direct elections in Europe, Westminster would not be handing over new powers in that direction.

I have been considering the matter of machinery (he said) but apart from that our aim must be to pursue greater unity in Europe, without sacrificing our nationhood.

I want to see a Community, which is constantly evolving, concentrating on some of the issues of importance. I press them to consider the problem of unemployment in its European context. We know what the future is likely to bring forward; we know what the situation is going to be. How can the Community help to overcome that? They ought to be looking at the nature of unemployment in the Community.

This was a way in which the EEC could begin to take a lead as being something that the people of this country would care about and would feel was an institution to which they wished to belong.

This was one of the ways in which a directly elected Assembly could focus the attention of the Council of Ministers, the Commission and other bodies concerned with the development of Europe on these particular matters. This was the objective to be borne in mind in the approach to direct elections and wider questions of the development of the Community.

Progress on political unity and cooperation

Mr Reginald Maudling, Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs (Barnet, Chipping Barnet, C), said they had committed themselves as a nation to the development of Europe as a community, with all that meant in economic and political terms.

The appointment of a select committee was to be welcomed as many MPs had been pressing for this for some time. The Opposition would play a full role in its deliberations.

As the referendum had taken place less than a year ago, it would be surprising if many MPs had changed their minds on the fundamental principle of membership. Anti-marketeers, if the EEC was to continue, as it would, should welcome more effective parliamentary control of the Brussels bureaucracy which they disliked so much.

There was no commitment to detailed proposals unless they were satisfactory to the Commons and no commitment on date. What was a commitment of honour was that the United Kingdom would work actively and sincerely to achieve the set of proposals which would be acceptable to the United Kingdom and to her colleagues in an agreed timescale.

To obstruct progress towards direct elections would be dishonest and damaging to the whole position of the United Kingdom in Western Europe. A reversal of policy now in principle would be damaging to the whole concept of European unity.

These were difficult times for the Community. In the economic context it was obvious that strains for a still young Community were bound to arise. There had been few signs recently of practical progress in economic matters, but there had been most encouraging signs of progress towards unity and cooperation in political matters. It would be a profound shock to that progress if a major country were to perform a U-turn on the principle of direct elections.

If the European Parliament was to be effective in its alloted spheres it needed the authority which could only come from elections and direct contact with the electorate. That would be provided by the direct system.

The dual mandate placed great handicaps on members of the Commons and on members of the European Parliament. In principle it would be a good thing if MPs could be MPs of both Parliaments, but in practice it had become impossible to conduct the dual mandate.

The name Parliament was confusing because the Parliament, or Assembly, was different from the concept of Parliament held in the United Kingdom. A European Parliament or Assembly of this kind was suitable to the present stage of the evolution of the Community. Both were unique experiments in political organization, and there was no precedent for them.

The European Parliament or Assembly reflected the status of the Community. It was neither a loose alliance of states nor a single unitary state.

It was more in the nature of a partnership in which people voluntarily joined together with a common purpose in a joint organization where there was a common interest, but where individual interests had not been submerged and where the individual must respect the common rights and interests of the partnership as the partnership must respect the rights and interests of the individual member. That was the EEC at its present stage of development.

The European Parliament was a unique creation appropriate to the present stage of development of the unique European Community. It was essential to draw a clear and firm line between the competence of the European Parliament and of national Parliaments. They might often discuss similar or identical matters, but it would be disastrous if the separate Parliaments sought to wield similar and overlapping powers of decision. That would lead to chaos. Introducing direct elections in no way brought that about.

A common date for the elections was desirable. The sheer disruption of having a series of elections at different times should be recognized.

His concern was that the first poll at a European election might be a derisory one. It was important to have the election at a time and in circumstances which enabled the political battle to be argued out in this country and that there was a substantial turnout of electors.

It was impracticable to continue the dual mandate as a general rule but the Opposition saw no reason why anyone who believed he could do both jobs should not stand as a candidate and, if necessary, be elected to do so.

Many problems would arise for the party organizations, including financing, canvassing and organizing elections. There would be a *problem of selection of candidates*. It would not be all that easy to get enough candidates of adequate calibre to go forward.

There were two major points for Parliament to decide, the drawing of the boundaries of the constituencies and the electoral system. The drawing of the boundaries must be impartial and seen to be impartial. It should be undertaken by the Boundary Commission. (Cheers.) This would be a guarantee of fairness.

There was a danger of confusion in the relationship between the European Parliament and Westminster. There must be full exchange of papers, documents and so on, and there must be arrangements for contact between individual members of the two Parliaments. The main parties in the Parliaments would have the task of ensuring that their point of view was consistently portrayed in Europe and Westminster.

But (he went on) I am not convinced that there is any need for an institutional link between the two Parliaments any more than there is an institutional link between Westminster and the Greater London Council.

No case for sulking inside Community

Mr Michael Stewart, leader of the Labour delegation at the European Parliament (Hammersmith, Fulham, Lab), said one thing they must avoid was any lengthy period during which other nations in the Community had gone over to direct elections and Britain, as yet, had not done so.

Whether the date for bringing the new and larger Parliament into being is June, 1978, or some later date (he said) we must see to it that Britain holds her direct elections at that time and that we are not left in this limping period where others are having direct elections and we are still trying to do it by delegation.

The British electorate might resent it if they saw that there was a European Parliament to which citizens of other countries in the Community could directly elect their members but at that time they were denied the opportunity of doing so.

There was a case for not going into the Community, and a case for going in, but there could be no conceivable case for being in the Community and sulking inside it and trying to obstruct what other members were trying to do. It would be a mischievous course of action for Britain.

He hoped MPs and those outside the House who regretted British entry would recognize that there was no sort of future in that attitude.

A directly elected Assembly was bound to become a more powerful Assembly, but beyond the mere increase in numbers, it would become more powerful because it would be able to do its work more efficiently. A directly elected Assembly would mean that its members would make it at least as much the major part of their lives, as MPs did of the Commons. It meant they could exercise more influence on Council and Commission.

The growth of influence of the Assembly when it was directly elected would not be at the expense of national Parliaments but at the expense of the Council. It would make the Council act more efficiently and in greater awareness of public opinion. The Council, and still more the Commission, were always in danger of taking decisions without sufficient awareness of public opinion.

MPs should not talk as if direct elections were a kind of unpleasant medicine that had to be taken because the United Kingdom was in the Community. They were a considerable opportunity and the discovery of a new dimension in politics. The public at large had become aware that there was a European dimension in politics, not in terms of institutions but in terms of practical problems to be solved.

I am convinced (he said) that the details can be solved but it is essential that we get direct elections, that we get them no later than our partners in Europe and that we and our partners try to get them as soon as is sensible. If we do that, we may well be surprised at the degree of public interest and gratitude for what we shall have done.

Sir Derek Walker-Smith (East Hertfordshire, C) said apprehensions that direct elections would bring an undesirable extension of powers and involve a lurch to what was called federalism were not well founded though they should be treated sympathetically. There were pressures for an extension of powers of the European Parliament but they would exist under direct elections or under the present system.

Of course, too, there should be efforts to improve the exercise of powers and make them more meaningful and efficient. They should continue. But that was a far cry from saying that direct elections were a blueprint for a federal Europe.

Nor was there anything in the concept of direct elections which would change the legislative pattern of the Community, though he hoped this would improve their work.

Parity of representation was not easy to achieve in practice, as they knew from their experience in the United Kingdom, but the proposed pattern did not even purport to achieve it. It was heavily weighted in favour of the smaller states. There was a case for generosity, but generosity should not be pushed to a fault.

Such a formula might give added support to separatist movements on the grounds that a higher representation in the European Parliament might be attainable. It would be an ironical circumstance, a paradoxical consequence, if procedures designed to draw nations closer together promoted and encouraged fissiparious tendencies within the states.

The House should accept the duty imposed upon it to consider the adoption of whatever recommendation was finally made to it. The House should discharge that duty against the background that direct elections in their proper form at the proper time were an appropriate institutional framework.

Against that background (he said) we should see constructively and carefully the best solutions to the many practical problems that surround us.

Dr Dickson Mabon (Greenock and Port Glasgow, Lab) said there could surely be nobody against the proposition that there should be direct elections. One of the strongest cars in the anti-Marketeers' pack of arguments in the referendum was that this was a bureaucratic system without any democratic control.

He could not understand those who wanted the Community somehow or other to fail and so did not want to do anything to improve it and did not want to have direct elections. These anarchistic colleagues of his took a dog-in-the-manger, desperately anti-democratic view considering what the British people said loudly and clearly on June 5 last year.

Mrs Winifred Ewing (Moray and Nairn, Scot Nat) said her party approved of the principle of direct elections. The problem of any parliament was *basically* how to control the actions of the executive.

In the EEC, they had the Commission and the Council of Ministers, both effective in their own way. It was almost an impossibility to scrutinize the immense amount of stuff which poured out from this two-headed monster. The European Parliament was well formed and based on committees which worked well. Dual membership would become almost impossible to sustain.

She plumped for the alternative vote in a single member constituency.

If the elections come about, Scotland would be over governed. One of the issues which united the Scots was dislike of local government reform. One tier would have to go.

The terms for Scotland would be well fought over Scotland's areas of natural resources, which were fish and oil, where it looked as if their interests were not being safeguarded. She did not hear the French offering a chunk of the wine crop, which was France's natural resource, but Scotland was expected to let the Europeans come and take the fish.

Mr Edward du Cann (Taunton, C) said that direct elections were inevitable, and they would make land and Wales more irrelevant.

He had had a consistent view of the Common Market. It was wrong for the United Kingdom to be a signatory of the Treaty of Rome. The history of the United Kingdom beckoned her eager involvement towards the great world beyond the narrow confines of Europe. At a time when power was shifting from the developed to the undeveloped, that seemed to be especially relevant.

After Parliament's decision and the referendum, the task of all MPs was to work with diligence for the success of the adventure. That was his intention.

It was essential that the House should have a better definition of what was involved. The debate was about one thing only, the pace at which they agreed to alter fundamentally, perhaps irrevocably, the status and function of the British Parliament.

If we are to have a European Parliament (he said) let it be an outstanding example of democracy to the world at large and let it be a Parliament.

The House and country should note the scope of the questions which the Green Paper drew to *their attention. They were all concerned* with the machinery of the elections and not at all with the purposes of the European Parliament, its constitution and its working. He found that extraordinary and wrong. What they had so far heard, so far discussed and what had so far been revealed was inadequate. The Green Paper was disappointing.

The status of an elected Parliament is (he said) vastly more important than its method of election. I am impatient for direct elections. I believe them to be of the greatest importance.

What surprises and worries me is the lack of dynamism in our national approach to this whole affair and the confusion among us all and in Europe as to what it is we are attempting to achieve.

If the European Parliament were to be given formalized and real control of the finances of the Community, all else would follow.

Direct elections were a long stride in the direction of supranationality. The voters when they cast their votes in 1978 would have every right to know what sort of animal it was they were being asked to elect.

Research into effect of falling birth rate

Mr Toby Jessel (Richmond upon Thames, Twickenham, C) asked if the Lord President of the Council would give his estimate of the birth rate for 1976 based on existing population trends.

Mr William Price, Parliamentary Secretary, Privy Council Office (Rugby, Lab)—I cannot at present give a precise estimate but I would expect the birth rate to be a little lower than the provisional estimate of the birth rate for 1975 of 12.4 live births per thousand population.

Mr Jessel—On figures given in a reply to a written question on Friday, that would put the birth rate below the death rate for the first time ever and would put the birth rate a third below what it was in the early 1960s. What assessment have the Government made of the full economic and social consequences of such a drop in the birth rate?

Mr Price—The figures are even more significant than that. The drop between 1947 and 1975 was from 20.7 to 12.4. This is a matter into which the Government are doing a good deal of research. A full report on population and the drop in the birth rate will be published next year.

Mr Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley, Lab)—There is a school of thought which considers that the population of this country ought to decline overall. Do the Government have any considered view either for or against this?

Mr Price—We hold the view that this is a matter for individual families. There is a body of opinion which regards the present drop as creating all sorts of difficulties in the longer term.

These are the sort of matters into which the Government are conducting research and I ask him to await the report in the next 12 months.

Civil Service discipline for advisers

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C) asked the Minister for the Civil Service how many of the 29 special advisers to ministers received a salary higher than that paid to MPs.

Mr Charles Morris, Minister of State, Civil Service Department (Manchester, Openshaw, Lab)—There are 16 special advisers who receive a higher annual salary than the £5,750 paid to MPs. MPs are entitled to a number of additional allowances for which special advisers and other civil servants are not eligible.

Mr Gow—Is it the case, as the minister told the Commons on March 23, that the appointment and salaries of all these 29 special advisers terminates on the date when the resignation of the Prime Minister becomes effective?

Mr Morris—The appointment of special advisers needs the approval of the Prime Minister and therefore the appointment of special advisers subsequently will need the approval of the Prime Minister.

Mr Iain Sproat (Aberdeen, South, C)—It is repugnant that special advisers on political matters should be paid out of the taxpayers' money. If they are political advisers they should be paid by political parties.

Mr Morris—I wonder whether the Commons wants the situation where representatives and people who formerly worked at the Tory Central Office should be sat in ministerial office outside the confines and disciplines of the Civil Service.

Against the background of the Official Secrets Act, I have not met anybody who would want that situation. Special advisers ought to be subject to the same disciplines that civil servants generally are obliged to observe.

Mr Eric Heffer (Liverpool, Walton, Lab)—All the higher civil servants like permanent secretaries and so on are political advisers and they do not always give the right advice. (Laughter.)

Mr Morris—I do not accept that senior civil servants are politically partial in the advice they give. They endeavour to give the facts on which ministers can arrive at decisions.

Coal Board hopes to break even

Mr Alexander Eadie, Under Secretary for Coal, said in a written reply: The NCB is expected to break even this year without operational grants by the Government. The board aim to break even in the coming financial year too, but the level of operational grants by the Government has yet to be settled.

Duty free goods

Mr Robert Sheldon, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, in a written reply, said the question of harmonizing duty free facilities granted to travellers was under discussion within the EEC but it is not possible at the present time to foresee the outcome.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons

Today at 2.30: Debate on direct elections to the European Assembly. Fatal Accidents and Sudden Deaths Inquiry (Scotland) Bill and Damages (Scotland) Bill, remaining stages.

House of Lords

Today at 2.30: Freshwater and Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Bill and Housing (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, second reading. Debatable question on Nato.

EEC summit unlikely to reach decision this week on direct elections

House of Lords

Lord Goronwy-Roberts, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, moving that the House should take note of the Green Paper *Direct Elections to the European Assembly*, said there seemed little prospect that the European Council later this week would be able to reach final agreement on the text of the convention on direct elections. But they would try to make progress on as many outstanding matters as possible. It might well be that a final decision would be possible at the European Council in July.

During the course of the negotiations the Government would seek to get the terms which this country wanted and they would have particularly in mind what was said in Parliament today and tomorrow.

We may not (he said) get our own way on everything. The Foreign Secretary (Mr James Callaghan) considers it of importance that Parliament should be involved to the maximum extent at this time.

He has taken note of the support for two motions in the Commons urging that a select committee should be established on the question of direct elections. The Government have great sympathy with this point of view and have decided to set up a select committee to look into the matter.

Our intention is that the Government should not make final commitments before the committee has reported. We shall have to ask the committee to work with reasonable speed. We do not wish to hold up the other member states who want to go ahead with the introduction of direct elections, and we shall have to ask the committee to work to a timetable at which decisions are needed in the Community.

In the period before the select committee reports we shall continue to play a full part in the work that is going on in the Community, including the European Council on April 1 and 2.

Even if the convention was signed, he went on, it would still require ratification and the Government would intend to seek Parliament's approval by a draft order in council to be approved by an affirmative resolution in each House.

The intention was that the United Kingdom should still be able to continue sending nominated members to the assembly from the Lords and Commons if, in the end, this country was unable to hold the first elections in 1978.

On the question whether peers would be eligible to stand as candidates or to vote, nothing in the provisions to be agreed at Community level would prejudice this. They would be for decision by this Parliament.

There might be concern that the establishment of a directly elected assembly would mean a step towards federalism and that the acquisition by the assembly of further powers would not long be delayed. He would like to reassure the House that the first elections to the assembly would take place on the basis of the existing powers of the institution.

Lady Tweedsmuir (C) said she would urge the new Prime Minister to press with conviction for direct elections in Britain in 1978. The matter had been under discussion for many years, since long before Britain joined the Community. There were many practical difficulties but effort and care could solve them. It was important that Britain did not lag behind.

The European Assembly would be unique, as would those for Scotland and Wales. In all three cases they should seriously bend their minds to some form of voting methods that would conform to one of the continental systems.

Lady Elles (C) said the Opposition believed it was the intention of the Government to be ready for direct elections by May or June, 1978. The select committee should not delay its advice on which the Government would make a final decision.

The longer the matter of the size of the European Assemby was left undecided the more alternative proposals would be made. The basis to be adopted should be that Luxembourg should have six seats and the remainder should have seats based on a proportion of population.

Arrangements should be made for British nationals in other parts of the Community to vote in direct elections.

Lord Gladwyn (L) said he was disturbed at what Lord Goronwy-Roberts had said about the unlikelihood of the ministers coming to any final decision on April 1 or 2. The ministers indicated not long ago that they would come to an agreement in the European Council. It was possible that some governments had political cold feet and that the will to arrive at a decision was no longer as hard as it was a few months ago. He hoped the British Government were not getting cold feet.

Lord O'Hagan said any discussion of the future of the European Parliament must be part of a discussion on where the Community was going and how the European Parliament would help the United Kingdom to be better represented as individuals and electors and as a country inside a Community which was now going to become more democratic.

Some believed that direct elections posed a threat to this country's system of parliamentary government. Far bigger threats existed—devolution, increasing disrespect for the law, and those processes by which all governments were becoming closer and closer interlocked and so not wholly within the control of their national Parliaments.

The Earl of Lauderdale moved an amendment to the Government motion, calling on the Leader of the House (Lord Shepherd) to "implement his undertaking given on July 3 last that he would initiate consultations in all quarters of the House with a view to agreeing terms of reference for a select committee to propose to the House the most appropriate method of choosing the members of this House to serve in the European Assembly pending the introduction of direct elections to that assembly".

He said – the European Community was still a gathering of national states who focused their sovereignty on their home governments. The mere institution of mechanism could never correct the differences and divergencies, short of economic and political union.

Parliament had not laid down specific procedures for choosing members of the European Assembly. The present arrangement had resulted in anomalies which mocked the gravity of the matter.

SPORT

Football

Barcelona must look sharp after their long night of the knives

Barcelona, March 29.—Liverpool face a Barcelona side racked by dressing-room conflict and away defeats in the first leg of the semi-final round of the Uefa Cup here tomorrow night. As the Merseysiders kept in the hunt for the English first division title with Saturday's 2—0 home victory over Burnley, Barcelona were suffering their eighth away defeat of the Spanish season by losing —1 in Las Palmas.

That defeat killed any slim hopes Barcelona held of challenging for the Spanish title this year. Now six points behind the leaders, Real Madrid, the West German manager, Hennes Weisweiler, and his star-studded squad know that the Uefa Cup provides their last chance of glory this season.

For Mr Weisweiler, who came here from Borussia Mönchen Gladbach last summer, it has been a season of frustration, disappointment and anger culminating in the bitter public row between himself and the club's most prized possession—the Dutch striker, Johan Cruyff.

Cruyff, adored by the supporters but criticized by the manager for "not trying" away from home, has said he will leave the club when his contract expires at the end of this season. With the knives out and scapegoats being sought by the supporters and the press, Mr Weisweiler faces tomorrow night's clash with Liverpool knowing that his future with the club could depend on the result.

"Obviously a clear lead from the first leg is vital to us", Mr Weisweiler says, "to restore our pride after a poor season and bring the best out of our many fine players. Liverpool are as tough a proposition as any in Europe".

He can take comfort in the knowledge that Cruyff and his compatriot Johan Neeskens, have reserved the kind of form that took Netherlands to the last World Cup Final for the Uefa Cup this season. Cruyff's delicate skills and vision have provided the inspiration, Neeskens's tenacity and hard work the springboard for the victories over Lazio, Vasas Budapest and Levski Spartak that have brought Barcelona to the semi-final stage.

A further warning for Liverpool lies in the formidable home record of Barcelona at their Non Camp stadium this season—played 13, won 12, drawn one, with 33 goals for and seven against. But Bob Paisley and his side, always draw specialists away from home in more than a decade of European competition, know that a low-scoring draw here should set up a ticket to this year's final if they can exploit the clear weakness in the Barcelona defence at Anfield on April 14.

Then Toshack and Keegan, whose partnership up front has made Liverpool dangerous this season, can be expected to punish a slow Barcelona defence in which the internationals, Enrique Costas and Migueli, have been having a miserable season. In midfield Neeskens and Juan Asensi will battle with the veteran Ian Callaghan and the new England cap, Ray Kennedy, for the chance to feed the potent Barcelona striking force of Cruyff, Marcial and Carlos Rexach.

A full house of nearly 100,000 will roar for a home victory. Barcelona expect to have the international left back, Jesus de la Cruz, returning to replace Albadalejo from the side that lost in Las Palmas. Liverpool have removed their doubt over the striker, Heighway, who was gashed above an eye on Saturday. Heighway got the first goal when they beat the Basque side, Real Sociedad, 3—1 in San Sebastian last October in the Uefa Cup second round.

Both sides are former cup winners—Barcelona twice in the days of the Fairs Cup and Liverpool once, in 1973, when they beat Borussia Mönchen Gladbach. Probable line-ups:

BARCELONA: Mora; Costas, Migueli, Tome, De la Cruz, Neeskens, Asensi, Marcial, Rexach, Cruyff, Fortes.

LIVERPOOL: Clemence; Smith, Thompson, Hughes, Neal, Case, Callaghan, Kennedy, Keegan, Heighway, Toshack.—Reuter.

Today's list of fixtures

Uefa Cup
Semi-final round, first leg
Barcelona v Liverpool (8 45)

Second division
Sunderland v York

Third division
Bury v Shrewsbury
Crystal Palace v Millwall
Grimsby v Port Vale
Halifax v Chesterfield
Preston NE v Sheffield Wednesday
Swindon v Chester

Fourth division
Barnsley v Cambridge
Doncaster v Workington
Huddersfield v Bournemouth

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Premier division: Dunstable v Telford, Gravesend v Stourbridge, Hillingdon v Wealdstone, Margate v Burton, Wimbledon v Atherstone. First division, north: Bromsgrove v Wellingborough, Enderby v Gloucester, Kidderminster v Milton Keynes. First division, south: Crawley v Bletchley, Hastings v Folkestone Shepway.

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: Buxton v Worksop, Goole v Morecambe, Matlock v Fleetwood.

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE: First division: Bishop's Stortford v Leytonstone, Dulwich Hamlet v Woking, Enfield v Southall and EB, Hendon v Clapton, Hitchin Town v Dagenham, Slough Town v Leatherhead, Staines Town v Wycombe Wanderers, Sutton United v Barking, Walthamstow Avenue v Tooting and Mitcham.

ATHENIAN LEAGUE: First division: Hemel Hempstead v Aylesbury United.

RUGBY UNION: Rugby v Coventry (6 30).

RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: St Helens v Salford, Warrington v Oldham. Second division: New Hunslet v Doncaster.

All four teams left in the Cup are also chasing promotion

Halving the chances of a double

For the second successive year, the draw for the semi-final round of the FA Cup has given the competition a lopsided look. At Hillsborough Manchester United and Derby County, the most prolific scorers in the first division with 125 goals between them, are in contention for the double. Derby, the reigning league champions, and United, who ran away with the second division title last year, both put the emphasis on attack and their meeting would surely have graced Wembley itself. At Stamford Bridge, Southampton meet Crystal Palace knowing that the winners will be cast as underdogs in the final—though that has proved no great disadvantage recently. Both are also contenders for promotion. Southampton's challenge for the top drawer may have slipped away but they have players with experience such as Osgood who, apart from Nish of Derby, is the only semi-finalist to have played in the final stage. Crystal Palace have emerged from an indifferent period and are once again in a strong position to return to the second division. If successful on Saturday, they will write a new page into FA Cup history by becoming the first third division side to contest the final. The common bond between the teams is the colourful character of the four managers. Tommy Docherty, of United, and Dave Mackay, of Derby, won 47 Scottish caps between them and their players now display the uncompromising but creative methods for which they were once famed. Laurie McMenemy, of Southampton, and Malcolm Allison, of Palace, did not win international acclaim as players but, through their flair and inspiration, they have led their sides on a path to success. For one, at least, that will soon become a path to glory as well. In assessing Saturday's ties, GERALD SINSTADT considers Manchester United and Crystal Palace, GERRY HARRISON looks at Derby County and Southampton.

United innocent no longer

Innocence, the fashionable word for Manchester United, does less than justice to the team who have brought the atmosphere of the palmy days back to Old Trafford. The suggestion of naivety, while recognizing the refreshing spontaneity and freedom of United's play, takes no account of the experience and wisdom contributed in key positions by Stepney, Buchan and Macari.

Nor does it give sufficient credit to the vigorous encouragement of attacking football which starts with Tommy Docherty, a man for whom it would be possible to find many adjectives more apt than innocent. As Docherty himself admits, this emphasis on positive qualities has not always been apparent.

Two seasons ago, on their way to the second division, United were playing home games with only two front runners, one of them Macari, 5ft 6in tall. With relegation came reassessment. Pearson arrived expensively from Hull City, Coppell cheaply from Tranmere Rovers. Macari found a niche in midfield and, with it, the room to score goals.

A year ago in these pages I reported Docherty's ambition to reinforce his side with another genuine winger at the expense of midfield. In November Hill was signed from Millwall. The pattern was complete and the "innocent" were turned loose.

The attraction of seeing a team capable of attacking down both flanks is enhanced in United's case by the contrast between the wingers. Coppell is sturdy, direct and purposeful. Hill is the artful dodger, jinking and feinting. Both benefit from the mobility and astuteness of Pearson and from the clever left-sided runs of McIlroy.

Inevitably the style throws great weight on the two men in midfield. Macari and Daly have responded nobly—indeed, to such a degree that makes Macari's fitness to face Derby County a crucial factor.

Home games against Oxford United and Peterborough United gave Manchester United a gentle start in the competition, but away victories over Leicester City and Wolverhampton Wanderers (in a replay) revealed their potential. Their recovery from a two-goal deficit at Molineux will not have left Derby with any illusions that the innocents can be easily fleeced.

The hopes of Derby left in the air

The loss of Charlie George, his 24 goals and marvellous passing, must damage Derby County's chances. Roger Davies, however, is not exactly a makeweight replacement and his ability in the air, where Manchester United are weakest, might yet make him the hero of the hour. And there is always Francis Lee who is useful for unsustained assaults and a few penalty appeals.

Derby's route to Hillsborough, via Everton, Liverpool, Southend United and Newcastle United, is less important than how they will cope with United now they are there. After all, Derby, the current League champions, have been at the top for considerably longer than United's youngsters and will expect to demonstrate why in any direct confrontation.

In neither of the two meetings between these two expressive sides have Derby been able to match United for energy. For a team with more ability than discipline in defence, this could have been fatal. It has been their expertise which has so far given the edge.

In September a late error by Stepney made a gift of both points to Derby. Last month at Old Trafford, Derby were almost over-run in the first half. During the break the players resolved to close down Coppell and Hill as soon as United's defenders had possession. It worked well.

Gemmill, Rioch and Powell started to control midfield as Todd and McFarland snapped up the hopeful passes aimed at United's alternative, smaller targets. Derby equalized and created enough chances to have won. Nish will have to be at his best against Coppell, whom he found a tricky opponent.

McFarland is in top form which is bad news for Pearson. Todd does not vary much and James can be inspired by extra responsibility and the big occasion. Gemmill will also sort out a few people as well as match United in mileage. Yet it all centres on Davies and his combination with Hector.

Southampton's run uphill

Things looked bad for Southampton for most of their Cup run. Yet they still find themselves in the semi-final round for the first time since 1963 when their minds and bodies should be concentrating on other matters.

In the third round they seemed to have succumbed to Aston Villa on their own ground until Fisher popped up with an 89th minute equalizer. In the replay at Villa Park Southampton defied all the prophets of doom by winning 2—1 in extra time. Admittedly, Blackpool were not much a barrier in the next bout but Southampton were enjoying a good run at the time.

The fifth round tie at West Bromwich Albion had all the critics pointing to their appalling away record and giving them the thumbs down. But Southampton drew 1—1 and won the replay 4—0, three of them scored by Channon. Next it was the role of also-ran to the gallant Bradford City who won 14—2 on corners but lost 1—0 on goals.

Now they are fighting the Fedora and Flash Malcolm and the trouble is they are not even playing well. Only a confident, convincing talker such as their manager, Laurie McMenemy, will persuade anyone that Southampton still have a chance of promotion. They have not won a game since the sixth round, although they did manage a draw at Stamford Bridge if one is scraping the barrel for coincidence.

Southampton have possibly Britain's best forward in Mike Channon as well as players like Blyth, Osgood, McCalliog and Fisher, who have scores to settle with either Crystal Palace in particular or life in general. They will win because they are a division higher than Palace and second division teams are enjoying a run of appearances in the final, because they have a streak of meanness and experience which goes down well in the tension of a semi-final, because Channon's life's ambition is to play in a Wembley final and because Gerald Sinstadt won the toss and elected to back Crystal Palace.

Palace have vision on an intuitive path

The main argument against Crystal Palace beating Southampton is based on precedent—third division clubs do not reach FA Cup finals. The main argument in favour of Crystal Palace is that they are not like any third division club that has previously tried.

Malcolm Allison, their manager, may not be a modern Moses but he plays the part at least as convincingly as Charlton Heston. His leadership raises the confidence trick to the level of minor art. Whether being accidentally or calculatedly outrageous, Allison is never guilty of underselling his product.

In the early Cup rounds, when Crystal Palace were unconvincingly disposing of Walton and Hersham (1—0) and Millwall (2—1 in a replay), Allison was already flicking ash from his cigar and announcing his intuitions about Wembley. When Scarborough proved troublesome in the third round, Palace's imperfections were relatively unnoticed because of Allison's hat.

Given those necessary nudges the movement began, like an avalanche, to generate its own impetus. Success spread confidence. Confidence bred success. When the draw produced successive away ties against Leeds United, Chelsea and Sunderland, Crystal Palace travelled, not with the hopes of souped-up inferiors but with the expectation of equals.

The clamour and glamour of the FA Cup had an alarming side effect when Palace returned to muted routine in the league. Between beating Millwall in the second round and Sunderland in the sixth, 13 third division games yielded only eight points. Confidence had over-reached itself.

Recently, the players seem to have become aware that a team too good for the third division has to prove it by winning league matches, too. Credit for this—as for many of the virtues displayed by Crystal Palace this season—must be given in generous measure to Terry Venables, Allison's lieutenant.

The frequently emphasized cares and pressures of responsibility in football have made few lines on Venables's forehead yet. Youthful, cheerful, intelligent and well-balanced, he brings to his coaching the same ambition and vision he showed as a player with Chelsea, Tottenham Hotspur and Queens Park Rangers.

Palace's style is designed to use their strength—Taylor's outstanding speed and skill on the ball, Evans's height and heading ability, Jeffries's coolness, Whittle's aggression. Bolstered by Allison's studied arrogance, it looks a good recipe for upsetting the precedents.

Racing

Apres Demain worth supporting today

By Michael Seely

Peter Walwyn, whose fabulous 1975 total of 121 winners of races worth £382,527 has never been equalled in English racing history, can win the Burton Overy Stakes with Apres Demain at Leicester this afternoon. This week Seven Barrows is sending runners both north and south on exploratory missions.

At Folkestone tomorrow Pocket Hercules will do duty for Walwyn in the Privy Councillor Guineas Trial Stakes. On the opening day at Liverpool on Thursday Acquaint, fit from his successful hurdling campaign will contest the Littlewoods Spring Cup. The same afternoon Blue Brigand, who won a maiden race in style at Sandown Park last September, is a probable in the Arena Sports Advertising Stakes. On Friday on the other side of the Pennines at Teesside Park the stable representative is the promising Sir Ivor colt Isolate.

Judged on the basis of his two-year-old form, Apres Demain should have the measure of his opponents today. Although the three-year-old is out of a half sister to the dam of Matatina, Showdown and Duke Ellington and is therefore bred mainly for speed, he is sure to stay the mile of this afternoon's race. One of his two easy wins last season was over seven furlongs at Salisbury and it was over the same distance that he finished third to Over To You in the Solario Stakes at Sandown. Of his opponents the most ability last year was shown by Rusthall, who, after winning a selling race at Newmarket, ran well in keenly contested nurseries.

The principal threat, however, should come from the Robert Armstrong trained Tutorial, who our Newmarket correspondent says will soon be confirming the promise he showed in his only outing as a two-year-old when he came home strongly to finish third in a small race on the Newmarket July course. A son of the Cheshire Oaks winner, Yelda, Tutorial should win a race in the near future, but should not beat Apres Demain at a difference of only 5lb.

Brian Swift, fresh from his triumph with The Hertford on Saturday, clearly believes in striking while the iron is hot. On the same afternoon as the Lincoln success his two-year-old Flaming Temper was narrowly beaten in the Brocklesby Stakes by Red Johnnie. They were an above average Brocklesby field in appearance and Flaming Temper was the pick of a good looking bunch.

In this afternoon's Rempstone Stakes, Flaming Temper goes on a swift recovery mission. Bound to start at a short price his experience looks sure to tell against his unraced opponents, of whom the best on breeding is Gavin Hunter's Regency Bill, a half brother to a useful northern two-year-old of last year, River Bloom.

At Leicester yesterday it was good to see Walwyn's former assistant, Mark Smyly, start the season on a good note when Aeras narrowly defeated the 5-4 favourite, Forty Winks, in the Simon de Montfort Stakes. Aeras is the first racehorse owned by an 18-year-old university student, Miss Panina Karpida, the daughter of Constantine Karpida, who has horses in training with Walwyn.

The Kibworth Stakes was won in a canter by the 1-2 favourite, Major Green, in the hands of Brian Taylor. John Winter was delighted with Major Green and plans to run the five-year-old either in the John Porter Stakes at Newbury on April 10 or in the Grand Prix de Evry on April 24. Winter said that all his horses were sick after the Guineas meeting last spring and that Major Green looks a different horse this season.

STATE OF GOING (official): Leicester: good to firm. Sandown Park: firm. Tomorrow: Folkestone: good to firm. Catterick Bridge: good. Hereford: firm.

Another prize money boost

Prize money will get a further boost of £600,000 this year on top of the £1.3m already agreed by the Levy Board. This takes the board's contribution to almost £5m—an increase of 48 per cent over last year's £3,358,000.

Making the official announcement yesterday, Sir Desmond Plummer, the chairman of the Levy Board, said the further allocation followed the Home Secretary's decision to increase the Levy for the current year.

Last year, Sir Desmond offered an extra £1.3m on condition that a minimum wage for stable staff was agreed before June, 1976. This was agreed three weeks ago, ensuring that the much needed money would not be lost. But, the extra £600,000 comes as a bonus.

The Board have decided to help the "bread and butter" racing as well as the prestige events by increasing the basic daily rate paid to all racecourses. They have also increased the amount paid in grants for feature races at Ayr, Haydock Park and Newcastle to improve the calibre of racing in the north and Scotland. A further £50,000 will be added to the Board's contribution to pattern racing to maintain the competitive value of prestige races.

"We have spread the money as widely as possible to ensure that races at the top end of the scale remain attractive and that courses in the lower groups, which make an essential contribution to the levy at less popular times of year, share in the benefits", Sir Desmond said.

French challenger

Paris, March 29.—Yves Saint-Martin, the French jockey, will ride Daniel Wildenstein's Flying Water in the Nell Gwyn Stakes at Newmarket on April 8, Angel Penna, the trainer, said here today. Depending on her performance, the filly may run in the 1,0000 Guineas at Newmarket on April 29, Penna said.—Reuter.

Champions' first crops add spice to season

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

A fascinating aspect of any new season of flat racing is always the performance of the first season sire: the stallion whose first crop are making their appearance on the racecourse. In racing people tend to be every bit as quick to criticize as they are to praise and these are certainly crucial times for those connected with young horses, because more often than not an enormous amount of money is involved.

Take this year, for instance. Brigadier Gerard and Mill Reef, both with capital value of more than £1m, will have runners for the first time. Once great rivals on the course, they are now seeking to prove themselves in a different sphere and the presence of their names among the list of first season sires will inevitably mean that other members of the group are subjected to the glare of a particularly strong spotlight at the same time.

Looking through a list of yearlings sold in England and Ireland last year, I counted 54 stallions who were represented for the first time, and their first crops are now two-year-olds. Apart from Brigadier Gerard and Mill Reef, the best known are Crowned Prince, Deep Diver, High Top, Run The Gantlet, Sallust, and Sweet Revenge. When weighing up what chance a stallion has of making his name from the outset, it is important to consider not only his pedigree, those of his mates, and the distances over which they excelled, but also the number of runners that he will have in his first season.

This year, for instance, Deep Diver begins with a huge advantage over all his rivals, because he was accredited with 45 foals in his first crop. Obviously, not all of them will reach the racecourse, but still he should have far more runners this year than Mill Reef, who was restricted to only 20 mares in his first season at stud, and who as a result has only 11 two-year-olds in training.

Mill Reef got 16 of his 20 mares in foal in that first year. However, sadly two of them, those brilliant race mares, Humble Duty and Park Top, were to slip foal. The others all foaled safely, but two of those foals were subsequently killed in the United States, one by lightning. Twenty-four live foalings were attributed to Brigadier Gerard in the second supplement to volume 37 of the *General Stud Book*, but four of them have fallen by the wayside for one reason or another, and he now has 20 two-year-olds in training in England, Ireland and France, almost double the number of Mill Reef.

The remarkable Brigadier Gerard had what it took to win 17 of his 18 races over distances that ranged from five furlongs to a mile and a half. Although he won the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes he was, I am convinced, at his best racing over a mile or a mile and a quarter. For those who care to follow the fortunes of the two great horses as stallions, we have listed the names of the two year olds by Brigadier Gerard and Mill Reef in training this season below.

No one has taken a greater interest in the Brigadier's offspring than his owner and breeder, John Hislop, who told me recently that his overall impression is that his first crop is nicer than his second. And Hislop's pick of the two-year-olds are Etienne Gerard, who is a half-brother to that good filly, Roussalka; Imperial Guard, the second foal out of Altesse Royale who won the 1,000 Guineas, the Oaks and the Irish Oaks; White Lancer, and the filly Paper Work.

Unfortunately, the Hislops do not own one of Brigadier Gerard's first crop. Their foal died soon after birth. But they will, I am sure, be following the fortunes of White Lancer closely, because not only was he the Brigadier's first foal, he was also foaled on Jean Hislop's birthday. Only two of Brigadier Gerard's first crop passed through the sale ring as yearlings. They were Gerard, who cost 8,400 guineas and Hasna, who made 7,400 guineas. At the time, she was called Mother Ida, but she has been renamed.

In contrast, there was a furore whenever a Mill Reef came on the market. The colts out of Lalibela and Hecla fetched 202,000 guineas and 75,000 guineas respectively, and the fillies out of Dress Uniform and Prudent Girl went for 30,000 guineas and 31,000 guineas. In all fairness, to the colt out of Lalibela, he would not have fetched as much had not those two great spenders, Lady Beaverbrook and Ravi Tikkoo, got involved in a duel which neither seemed keen to lose.

Sires in the spotlight : Brigadier Gerard (left) and Mill Reef.

Mill Reef

Name	Sex	Dam	Trainer
Million	colt	Lalibela	W. R. Hern
Millionaire	colt	State Pension	P. T. Walwyn
Sun Fish	colt	Costa Sola	W. R. Hern
Teddington Park	colt	Hecla	I. A. Balding
American Beauty	filly	West Side Story	N. Murless
Diamond Reef	filly	Dress Uniform	I. A. Balding
Grain of Truth	filly	Village Gossip	I. A. Balding
Millerie	filly	Money for Nothing	R. F. Johnson-Houghton
Miller's Lass	filly	Prudent Girl	D. K. Weld (Ireland)
Quiet Harbour	filly	Peace	J. Tree
Silver Shoals	filly	Double Treasure	I. A. Balding

Brigadier Gerard

Cavalry Charge	colt	Laverock	T. Waugh
Etienne Gerard	colt	Oh So Fair	M. Stoute
Gay Gerard	colt	Floozie	S. Quirke (Ireland)
General	colt	Mercuriale	J. M. de Choubersky (Fr)
Gerard	colt	La Mirabelle	C. Brittain
Gerrards Cross	colt	Queen's Keys	P. T. Walwyn
Imperial Guard	colt	Altesse Royale	P. T. Walwyn
Le Brigand	colt	Bacanthe	C. G. Milbank (F)
Lucky Reward	colt	My Astrid	S. McGrath (Ireland)
Major Thompson	colt	St Pauli Girl	G. Pritchard-Gordon
St Cyr	colt	Royal Justice	H. Wragg
White Lancer	colt	Coolnir	H. Candy
Actal	filly	Acte	M. Bartholomew (Fr)
Brig of Ayr	filly	Gospel Truth	J. Dunlop
Hasna	filly	Arethusa	M. Masson
Military March	filly	Zither	W. R. Hern
Paper Work	filly	Too Much	P. Head (Fr)
Princess Gerard	filly	Vital Error	R. F. Johnson-Houghton
Rozila	filly	Nucciolina	F. Mathet (Fr)
Wychwood	filly	Eastwood	W. R. Hern

Leicester programme

2.15 BESCABY STAKES (2-y-o maiden fillies: £450: 5f)
1 Affidavit (Mrs T. Wade), R. Simpson, 8-11 .... P. Simpson 7 9
3 Aunt Thea (C. Hill), Hill, 8-11 .... J. Mercer 2
4 Brightelmstone (H. Harvey), R. Smyth, 8-11 .... G. Lewis 5
5 Cindermouse (Mrs L. Miller), C. Miller, 8-11 .. T. McKeown 3
6 Crystal Fjord (Mrs J. Wood), Miss N. Wilmot, 8-11 .. B. Jago 8
8 Golden Grove (E. Vaughan), E. Reavey, 8-11 .... G. Baxter 7
11 Karella (H. Loebstein), T. Corbett, 8-11 .... P. Eddery 4
14 Our Jade (T. McCarthy), P. Ashworth, 8-11 .... B. Rouse 10
15 Scorpio Maid (Mrs K. Symonds), D. Thom, 8-11 .. M. Thomas 11
16 Tia Polly (Mrs N. Parr), W. Wightman, 8-11 .... E. Hide 1
17 Tudor Deb (G. Insoll), G. Hunter, 8-11 .... T. Bridge 6
9-4 Karella, 3-1 Tia Polly, 4-1 Aunt Thea, 5-1 Brightelmstone, 8-1 Tudor Deb, 12-1 Our Jade, 20-1 others.

2.45 KEYTHORPE HANDICAP (4-y-o: £323: 1½m)
1 403- Don Philipe (G. Harmer), A. Davison, 9-7 .... P. Cheese 4
2 20- Red Ambion (Mrs G. Davison), A. Davison, 9-6 .. P. Eddery 2
4 040300- Civil Servant (J. Johnson), Johnson, 9-1 .... G. Baxter 7
6 0043- Double Star (D. Ringer), Ringer, 8-13 .... E. Eldin 5
7 000204- Just Amy (M. Ramsden), S. Norton, 8-12 .... M. Wood 7 10
8 042000- Tom Tallis (T. Gaffney), R. Akehurst, 8-9 .... P. Cook 3
9 000043- Dellwood Prince (F. Dellafera), W. Holden, 8-3 .. W. Carson 1
11 0000- Catspoint (J. Russell), R. Hannon, 7-13 .... C. Coles 7 8
12 000400- Card Sharp (T. Martin), G. Balding, 7-13 .... F. Curant 9
13 000000- Weepers Star (D. Griffiths), Miss N. Wilmot, 7-7 D. McKay 6
5-2 Double Star, 7-2 Don Philipe, 4-1 Just Amy, 8-1 Dellwood Prince, 8-1 Red Ambion, 12-1 Civil Servant, Tom Tallis, 16-1 others.

3.15 HOLWELL HANDICAP (£633: 1½m)
2 2441- Highland Jig (C) (Mrs J. Bigg), R. Hollinshead, 5-9-7 T. Ives 2
3 030000- Charles Martel (H. Wragg), Wragg, 4-9-2 .... F. O'Neill 7 15
6 013400- Greek Monarch (S. Mason), R. Vibert, 4-8-12 .. I. Johnson 3 8
8 013120- Watch-Bear (V. McCalmont), Doug Smith, 4-8-11 G. Baxter 11
10 040100- Rethink (Mrs E. Hargrave), A. Dalton, 4-8-2 .. T. McKeown 4
11 443440- Tight Rope (Mrs F. Galpin), R. Boss, 4-8-3 .... — 5
12 421031- Dunretz (B) (J. Grumwade), P. Makin, 4-8-3 .... D. Cullen 1
14 341004- Mantop (Mrs B. Wright), C. Brittain, 4-8-0 .... W. Carson 6
17 040032- Moonstrike (H. Fanner), P. Haslam, 4-7-11 .... J. Lynch 14
18 40- Serogan (A. Wiseman), D. Gandolfo, 7-7-11 .... J. Reid 5 12
20 00004- Derry Town (G. Kelly), G. Smyth, 4-7-11 .... M. Thomas 9
21 003102- Surprise Event (R. Frost), W. Holden, 4-7-8 .... L. Parkes 7
22 33440- Running Scared (A. Spence), A. Pitt, 4-7-8 .... R. Fox 5 3
24 400000- Quick Result (P. Deal), Mrs R. Pitman, 5-7-7 .. D. McKay 13
25 000000- Landpot (Mrs L. Carroll), V. Lay, 5-7-7 .... R. Still 10
9-3 Dunretz, 5-1 Running Scared, 6-1 Watch-Bear, 13-2 Mantop, 8-1 Highland Jig, 10-1 Moonstrike, Surprise Event, 12-1 Charles Martel, Greek Monarch, Rethink, 20-1 others.

3.45 BURTON OVERY STAKES (3-y-o: £1,228: 1m)
1 0113- Apres Demain (P. Hexter), P. Walwyn, 8-11 .... P. Eddery 5
2 0001- Bahrain Paddy (L. Hughes), R. Hollinshead, 8-11 .. T. Ives 3
7 031202- Rusthall (A. D'Morias), P. Haslam, 8-8 .... J. Lynch 6
9 0- The Verger (C. East), R. Supple, 8-6 .... R. Wernham 5 4
10 3- Tutorial (G. Turner), R. Armstrong, 8-6 .... B. Taylor 2
12 Musical Lucy (W. Marshall), Marshall, 8-3 .... R. Marshall 1
4-5 Apres Demain, 5-2 Tutorial, 6-1 Bahrain Paddy, 10-1 Musical Lucy, Rusthall, 20-1 The Verger.

4.15 REMPSTONE STAKES (2-y-o: £459: 5f)
1 Better Blessed (J. Rose), P. Ashworth, 8-11 .... B. Taylor 5
3 2 Flaming Temper (A. Leader), B. Swift, 8-11 .... P. Cook 2
10 Mr Nice Guy (Mrs F. Todd), E. Reavey, 8-11 .... G. Baxter 3
11 Regency Bill (A. Holdsworth), G. Hunter, 8-11 .. T. Bridge 1
12 Royal Communique (G. Bosley), R. Hannon, 8-11 .. F. Durr 7
13 Stay With Me (A. Kaye), W. Marshall, 8-11 .... R. Marshall 6
4-6 Flaming Temper, 5-1 Better Blessed, 6-1 Royal Communique, 10-1 Regency Bill, Stay With Me, 16-1 Mr Nice Guy.

4.45 HARBOROUGH STAKES (3-y-o maiden fillies: £575: 1m)
3 0- Cinders (Mrs E. Vester), Doug Smith, 8-11 .... G. Baxter 5
5 000- Du Tonnerre (D. Wood), Miss N. Wilmot, 8-11 .... B. Jago 9
7 302000- Flora Twice (P. Thomas), C. Benstead, 8-11 .... B. Rouse 10
9 0020- London Spin (Mrs R. Nelson), W. Marshall, 8-11 R. Marshall 7
10 00- Magic Shoes (H. Joel), T. Waugh, 8-11 .... E. Eldin 16
11 0- Marusa (Lord Fairhaven), M. Prescott, 8-11 .. G. Duffield 2
12 300003- Mayswing (H. Rees), R. Hollinshead, 8-11 .... T. Ives 11
13 0000- Miss Kung Fu (Mrs R. Tang), R. Supple, 8-11 R. Wernham 5 15
15 000- Morning Miss (A. Allen), D. Dartnall, 8-11 .... R. Baker 5 8
16 04- One Glance (F. Farrow), R. Armstrong, 8-11 .. B. Raymond 13
17 Schoolhouse Dale (Sir R. Sykes), W. Elsey, 8-11 .... E. Hide 12
19 0- Simm's Pimms (R. Milsom), P. Robinson, 8-11 .. P. Young 5 1
20 00000- Smithfield Lady (M. Gregory), R. Akehurst, 8-11 .. P. Cook 14
22 0- Statfold Pride (C. Gilman), W. Wharton, 8-11 .... C. Moss 2
26 00- Vibrate (A. Richards), C. Brittain, 8-11 .... W. Carson 4
28 000- Young Sovereign (R. Moller), H. Wragg, 8-11 .... P. Eddery 6
7-2 One Glance, 4-1 Vibrate, 5-1 Mayswing, 6-1 London Spin, 8-1 Schoolhouse Dale, 10-1 Flora Twice, Young Sovereign, 14-1 Marusa, Smithfield Lady, 20-1 others.

Leicester selections

By Our Racing Staff

2.15 Tudor Deb. 2.45 Weepers Star. 3.15 Running Scared. 3.45 Apres Demain. 4.15 FLAMING TEMPER is specially recommended. 4.45 Vibrate.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.15 Karella. 2.45 Dellwood Prince. 3.15 Watch Bear. 3.45 Tutorial. 4.45 Young Sovereign.

Sandown Park programme

[*Television (IBA)*: 3.5 *and* 3.35 *races*]

2.0 DOWNS STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £414: 2m)
1 040203 Crimson Clip (Mrs H. Banks), M. Banks, 11-11-9 M. Stanley
2 410p-p0 Soviet (G. Dawes), J. Berry, 9-11-4 .... P. O'Brien 7
3 43p424 Curlew River (Mrs L. Bader), K. Ivory, 11-11-3 .. A. Hall 7
4 p00134 Sport of Kings (F. King), King, 8-11-0 .... R. Floyd
5 0000 Tern Eran (J. Bacon), R. Wall, 13-10-13 .... J. Bishop 7
8 p20-3pp Top Pop (A. Moore), Moore, 14-10-7 .... N. Holman 7
9 233040 Little Window (Mrs L. Ripley), G. Ripley, 8-10-7 G. Gracey 7
10 0-00000 Storey (R. Leach), Leach, 6-10-7 .... K. Barker
6-4 Curlew River, 5-2 Sport of Kings, 4-1 Crimson Clip, 6-1 Little Window, 10-1 Soviet, 16-1 others.

2.30 NOVICES STEEPLECHASE (£689: 2m 4f 68yd)
4 bpp00p Indian Scholar (D. Lewis), Lewis, 7-11-0 .. Mr P. Greenall
5 042030 King Cloud (R. Leach), Leach, 9-11-0 .... K. Barker 7
6 f Kirkee (J. Jiggins), D. Ringer, 6-11-0 .... A. Webber
9 0-00002 Catamac (Maj C. Nathan), F. Cundell, 5-10-6 .. B. R. Davies
10 010032 Goldburg (S. Spokes), W. Wharton, 5-10-6 .. R. Champion
Evens Goldburg, 6-3 Catamac, 7-2 King Cloud, 12-1 Kirkee, 20-1 Indian Scholar.

3.5 ALANBROOKE STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £1,096: 3m 118yd)
2 11212b Shifting Gold (R. Russell), K. Bailey, 7-11-9 .. Mr R. Russell
3 p114pu Noble Neptune (CD) (G. Goobey), F. Winter, 10-11-8 V. Soane
4 431p33 Yanworth (Lord Vestey), D. Nicholson, 7-10-12 .. J. King
5 41140 Midaston (A. Moore), Moore, 7-10-4 .... C. Read
8 214234 Tuscan Prince (CD) (Sir J. Thomson), R. Armytage, 12-10-0 H. Evans
11 404310 Ladeven (D. Evatt), Evatt, 7-10-0 .... Mr D. Evatt 5
2-1 Shifting Gold, 3-1 Yanworth, 7-2 Noble Neptune, 9-2 Tuscan Prince, 10-1 Midaston, 20-1 Ladeven.

3.35 ROYAL ARTILLERY STEEPLECHASE (£640: 3m 118yd)
1 32f110 Playbill (CD) (Lord Fitzwilliam), Ld Fitzwilliam, 11-12-7 Mr R. Vines 7
2 f Admiral Rock (E. Witts), Witts, 10-12-0 .. Capt R. Symonds 7
3 Apache Chief (D. Wales), Wales, 9-12-0 .. Mr W. Tellwright 7
4 4-p Benlech Bay (Maj C. Burke), C. Burke, 10-12-0 Maj C. Burke 7
5 -2 Bobs Birthday (CD) (12 42nd Reg RA Saddle Club), T. Downs, 13-12-0 Lt C. Moore 7
7 p Cuila Hill (S. Knowles), Knowles, 12-12-0 .. Mr S. Knowles 7
8 0 Loch Anna (Maj R. Webster), R. Webster, 10-12-0 Maj R. Webster 7
9 034-00 Merchant Banker (CD) (T. Holland-Martin), Holland-Martin, 9-12-0 Mr T. Holland-Martin
10 Neat Perry (A. White), White, 9-12-0 .... Mr J. Mead
11 Prua Gale (Capt J. Symonds), Symonds, 9-12-0 Maj J. Colson 7
13 Tambourium (Capt R. Higgs), Higgs, 11-12-0 .... —
4-5 Playbill, 5-2 Bobs Birthday, 6-1 Merchant Banker, 8-1 Prua Gale, 12-1 Neat Perry, 16-1 others.

4.10 SPRING STEEPLECHASE (Handicap: £785: 2m)
2 212101 Persian Camp (CD) (Mrs A. Arnold), F. Cundell, 8-11-7 B. R. Davies
3 333410 Amarind (Mrs E. Storza), P. Walwyn, 10-11-2 K. Mooney 7
5 r-1f2u2 Garrymust (Lt-Col J. Benson), Mrs A. Oughton, 11-10-11 Mr J. Mead
6 430214 Ben Dearg (W. Whitbread), R. Armytage, 12-10-1 H. Evans
4-6 Persian Camp, 3-1 Amarind, 5-1 Garrymust, 10-1 Ben Dearg.

4.40 UBIQUE STEEPLECHASE (£414: 2m 4f 68yd)
1 p400-00 Ancient Lawyer (Lt-Col N. Ansell), Ansell, 8-12-5 Lt-Col N. Ansell 5
2 00p Cokethorpe (M. Thorne), Thorne, 8-12-5 .... Mr M. Thorne
3 0p Galley Way (D. Barnett), Mrs D. Barnett, 8-12-5 Mr D. Barnett 7
5 04- Khitale (S. Knowles), Knowles, 10-12-5 .. Mr S. Knowles 7
6 Liveryman (P. Abbey), Abbey, 9-12-5 .... Mr P. Abbey 7
8 f- Snow Shoe (Mrs F. Wright), Mrs F. Wright, 6-12-5 Mr R. Vines 7
11-8 Cokethorpe, 2-1 Khitale, 7-2 Ancient Lawyer, 5-1 Galley Way, 16-1 others.

Sandown Park selections

By Our Racing Staff

2.0 Sport of Kings. 2.30 Catamac. 3.5 Tuscan Prince. 3.35 PLAYBILL is specially recommended. 4.10 Persian Camp. 4.40 Ancient Lawyer.

Hexham NH results yesterday

3.0 (3.3) LOWGATE HURDLE (Handicap: £272: 2m)
Jane Again, ch m, by Spartan General—Moselle (P. Robinson), 6-10-9 .. P. Charlton (5-1 fav) 1
Trim Lawns, b g, by Privy Councillor—Trim Whirl (J. Cummings), 12-10-12 J. J. O'Neill (16-2) 2
Viaduct, br m, by New Brig—dam [illegible] ... 10-10-5 .. J. J. O'Neill (9-2) 1
Sebastian V, ch g, by Game Rights—dam unknown (R. Jeffreys), 8-10-12 R. Lamb (3-1 jt fav) 2
Duforge, b g, by Dual—Kilbelin Lady (A. Shipe), 9-10-0 D. Atkins (4-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 3-1 jt fav Cumbria, 14-1 King's Savings, 16-1 Mr Bee, Peapack (4th), 20-1 Paddy's Best, Treble Kay, 50-1 Burley Wood (p). 10 ran.
TOTE: Win, 63p; places, 22p, 20p, 17p; dual forecast, 99p. G. Richards, at Greystoke. 1l, 1l. Donadellos did not run.

3.0 (3.5) WARDEN HURDLE (Div I: £272: 2m)
Rolls Rambler, b m, by Wrekin Rambler—Cross Pearl (Mrs L. [illegible]

3.30 (3.32) CHESTERWOOD STEEPLECHASE (£172: 3m)
Vulgan's Trout, ch g, by Willy Trout—Mantilla Vulgan (A. Corner), 8-12-1 Mr J. Ormston (6-5 fav) 1
Tom Tallon, br g, by Beechwood—Yearning Bell (Mrs E. Robson), 10-11-12 Mr P. Craggs (2-1) 2
Bannamoor, b g, by Border Legend—Detron (R. Brewis), 12-12-5 Mr J. Walton (4-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 5-1 Kerman, King's Lure (f), 11-1 Ballyhough (u), 33-1 Opera Cloak (f), Vulgan Boy (p). 8 ran.
TOTE: Win, Vulgan's Trout, 10p; Tom Tallon, 90p; places, Vulgan's Trout, 10½p, Tom Tallon, 25p, Bannamoor, 15p; dual forecast, £1.87. Vulgan's Trout trained by A. Corner, at [illegible]

Donadellos, El Credo, Kuqoid, Torso, Skippit, Thats Penny, Cora Lynn. 16 ran.
TOTE: Win, 95p; places, 17p, 15p, 11p. A Dent, at Market Rasen. 4l, 3l. Lord Brock and Re-Lock did not run.

4.30 (4.37) ACOMB STEEPLECHASE (£408: 3m)
Coparu, b g, by Rubor—Cool Copp (R. Jackson), 6-11-12 Mr A. Eubank (2-1 fav) 1
Cool Thrust, b g, by Light Thrust—Coolnakislia (Mrs M. Rotherford), 7-11-3 .. R. Lamb (4-1) 2
Quiltevens, b g, by Even Money—Quilty (L. Clark), 6-11-2 C. Tinkler (10-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 11-4 Raise Your Hat (4th), 16-1 Bimsidas (f), 12-1 Money- [illegible]

[illegible]

Leicester results

2.15 (2.20) BILLESDON HANDICAP (£392: 1m)
Fast Mover, b c, by Runnymede—Emma Percher (J. Harris), 4-8-12 .... C. Moss (7-1) 1
Port Side, ch c, by Porto Bello—Lady Anna (Mrs H. Nicholson), 4-8-7 .... J. Rowe (33-1) 2
The Assassinator, gr c, by Runnymede—Consuelo (Mrs K. Foulds), 4-8-13 R. Fox (12-1) 3
ALSO RAN: 11-2 fav Oldtimer, [illegible]

[illegible]

SPORT

Rugby Union

Sanders may return as selectors' chairman

By Peter West
Rugby Correspondent

There is speculation, following the resignation of Alec Lewis as chairman of England's selectors, that Sandy Sanders, his predecessor in office, may be asked by the RFU to take up the reins again. When I spoke to him yesterday, he declined to make any comment. I take his diplomatic silence at least to infer that he could be available again if asked.

Mr Sanders was chairman when England achieved their victories overseas against South Africa (1972) and New Zealand (1973). A serious leg injury precluded him from managing the unbeaten team in South Africa, when Mr Lewis took over. But he took charge of the expedition to New Zealand.

Since the members of an England selection panel are invited to serve by the chairman before their nomination is endorsed by the RFU committee, it follows that when Mr Lewis resigned last week, his colleagues—Ron Jacobs, Peter Ford, Malcolm Phillips and the coach, Peter Colston—automatically stepped aside with him. The union will be anxious to appoint a new chairman before this season is through, and it could well be that his identity will not be revealed until a new panel has been brought together. In that case, the new committee would be announced in toto.

I cannot think there is any doubt that Mr Colston will continue as national coach for a second year, and therefore as one of the selection committee. There also seems a case for Mr Phillips, who has served for this season only, to be given a further run. That of course must depend on the feelings of the new chairman.

The whole matter of national selection will be on the agenda at the next full committee meeting of the RFU, which is not due for several weeks. Even more important is an urgent reexamination of the structure of the English game and many will hope that in present circumstances the committee can devote considerable attention to this subject.

Roger Uttley, the Gosforth and England forward, who has been out of the game for two months with a broken leg, has been named as a number eight in the 25-strong Barbarians party for their eight-match tour of United States and Canada at the end of May. Geoffrey Windsor-Lewis, who will be assistant manager to Herbert Waddell, the Barbarians' president, said yesterday that Uttley was confident of being fit and that anyway he would have a chance to prove himself on the Easter tour of Wales next month.

Bushell, the Harlequins full-back, McKay, the Rosslyn Park wing, Brynmor Williams, the Cardiff scrum half, and Jenkins, the Llanelli flanker, are the only uncapped players in a party that includes nine Welshmen, eight Englishmen and eight Scots. Ireland, who will be touring New Zealand in May, are not represented for obvious reasons. Three of the Scots—Shedden, Lawson and Tomes—are new Barbarians. So, too, is Adey, the Leicester and England number eight.

"We have attempted", said Windsor-Lewis, "to pick a nicely balanced side but above all a young one. There is no tour captain. A player will be chosen to lead the side for each game as it comes."

The Barbarians toured Canada in 1957, but this, coinciding with the American bi-centennial celebrations, will be their first visit to United States. The fixtures are: May 29, New England XV; May 31, California XV; June 3, British Columbia; June 5, Alberta; June 8, Saskatchewan and Manitoba; June 12, Canada; June 15, Quebec; June 17, Nova Scotia.

BARBARIANS: Full backs: K. M. Bushell (Harlequins), A. R. Irvine (Heriots FP). Wings: D. J. Mackay (Rosslyn Park), D. Shedden (West of Scotland), J. J. Williams (Llanelli). Centres: D. A. Cooke (Harlequins), S. P. Fenwick (Bridgend), R. W. Gravell (Llanelli). Fly halves: P. Bennett (Llanelli), I. R. McGeechan (Headingley). Scrum halves: A. J. M. Lawson (London Scottish), D. B. Williams (Cardiff). Prop forwards: A. B. Carmichael (West of Scotland), F. M. D. Knill (Cardiff), P. D. Llewellyn (Swansea). Hookers: D. F. Madsen (Gosforth), P. J. Wheeler (Leicester). Locks: A. J. Martin (Aberavon), A. J. Tomes (Hawick), R. M. Wilkinson (Bedford). Wing forwards: M. A. Biggar (London Scottish), G. Jenkins (Llanelli), A. Neary (Broughton Park). No 8: G. Adey (Leicester), R. M. Uttley (Gosforth).

Improvement in condition of Mervyn Davies

By Peter West

Mervyn Davies, the rugby captain of Wales, lay seriously ill in Cardiff last night following the brain haemorrhage he suffered on the field on Sunday. Mr Robert Weekes, consultant neurosurgeon at the University of Wales Hospital in Cardiff, said yesterday: "His life is in danger, and one could say that he was fighting for it."

Davies collapsed during the course of the Swansea-Pontypool Welsh Cup semi-final in Cardiff and was taken unconscious to the Royal Infirmary there before being transferred to the intensive care unit. It appears that, at the time, he was totally paralyzed down the left side of his body.

He later recovered consciousness, and there was further improvement yesterday morning when he was stated to be as well as could be expected. Mr Weekes said that the paralysis was improving, and that his speech was unaffected. "I do not think" he went on, "that the illness was the result of his playing rugby. It could have happened at any time. I think it unlikely that he will play again." That in itself would be an unhappy outcome, but surely is of no importance provided that this bonny fighter can win his present battle.

One observer at the match said Davies was tackled and a ruck formed on top of him. "When the ruck broke, Davies was still on the ground." He collapsed and was carried off in the thirtieth minute.

At 29, the world's best number eight has scaled almost every peak, having won 38 caps for his country, captained them to two championships, a triple crown and a grand slam, and played a distinguished and vital part in two outstanding Lions tours, to New Zealand and South Africa. There remained for him but one more honour the game could bestow—the captaincy of the Lions in New Zealand in 1977.

Davies: a bonny fighter.

As I reported some weeks ago, he said he would not be available for the next tour. But most people saw him as the leading contender for the job, and most of us believed that he could be persuaded to change his mind.

It can be no exaggeration to suggest that the whole rugby world in these islands—far, far beyond the Welsh valleys—has been stunned by the news of his misfortune. Everyone will echo the words of Bill Clement, Secretary of the Welsh Rugby Union, who, speaking on behalf of the president, committee and staff, said yesterday that they all were greatly distressed. "They all hope and pray", he added, "that today's very slight improvement will be continued and that he will be restored to normal health. At this anxious time the sympathy of all goes to Mervyn's wife, Shirley, to their baby son and to his parents."

Rackets

Holders given hard time

By Our Rackets Correspondent

Malvern, the holders, made hard work of beating Haileybury in the schools rackets championship at Queen's Club yesterday. Today they meet Eton in one semi-final round match, and Harrow, the second seeds, play Marlborough in the other. The useful Haileybury pair, R. G. P. Ellis and P. Wallis, won the colts event as they have promised to do all along.

The Malvern pair P. G. Nicholls and M. A. Tang, beat Haileybury's S. K. Kverndal and P. A. Hearn by 15—8, 15—7, 15—13, 17—18, 15—8, after the losers had come near to taking the third game, recovered from 3—11 and then saved a match point before winning the fourth. It was close enough to shake Malvern's nerves and the losers deserve commendation for keeping in the match when, in the early part, they looked like being blown off court.

Malvern's troubles began when Tang served his hand out at 7—5 in the third game. The left-handed Kverndal served a few aces and, with Malvern back on their heels, took Haileybury to 12—10. Here, what little luck was going went against them and Malvern were undoubtedly relieved to lead by 3—0.

When Malvern led 11—3 in the fourth game, the match looked over. But again Tang served his hand out, and Kverndal brought Haileybury right back with a run of nine.

SCHOOLS RACKETS CHAMPIONSHIP: Second round: Malvern (P. C. Nicholls and M. A. Tang) beat Haileybury (S. K. Kverndal and P. A. Hearn), 15—8, 15—7, 15—13, 17—18, 15—8; Eton (H. R. Murray-Philipson and R. M. J. O. Graham) beat Clifton (J. P. R. Thorn and T. M. Capes), 15—0, 15—5, 15—8, 12—15, 15—8; Marlborough (D. K. Watson and M. N. P. Mockridge) beat Malvern II (P. J. Rosser and A. J. B. McDonald), 15—6, 15—6, 15—7, 15—9; Harrow (A. C. S. Pigott and R. M. Tindall) beat Wellington (P. A. T. Myrtle and J. C. Denton), 15—3, 15—4, 15—8, 15—5; Colts competition: final round: Haileybury (R. G. P. Ellis and P. Wallis) beat Radley (C. J. Sutton and A. G. T. Pepper), 15—13, 15—5, 15—1, 15—9.

Latest European snow reports

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions off Piste	Weather (5 pm) —	°C
Andermatt	15	160	Good	Varied	Fine	10
Spring skiing on all slopes						
Anzère	0	35	Wet	Heavy	Fine	5
All pistes complete						
Isola 2000	110	130	Good	Heavy	Fine	10
Pistes still well covered						
Les Ménuires	70	160	Fair	Heavy	Sun	—
Bare patches on lower slopes						
St Anton	6	260	Good	Spring	Fine	10
Good early, slushy later						
Sauze d'Oulx	5	38	Fair	Heavy	Fine	9
Spring skiing conditions						

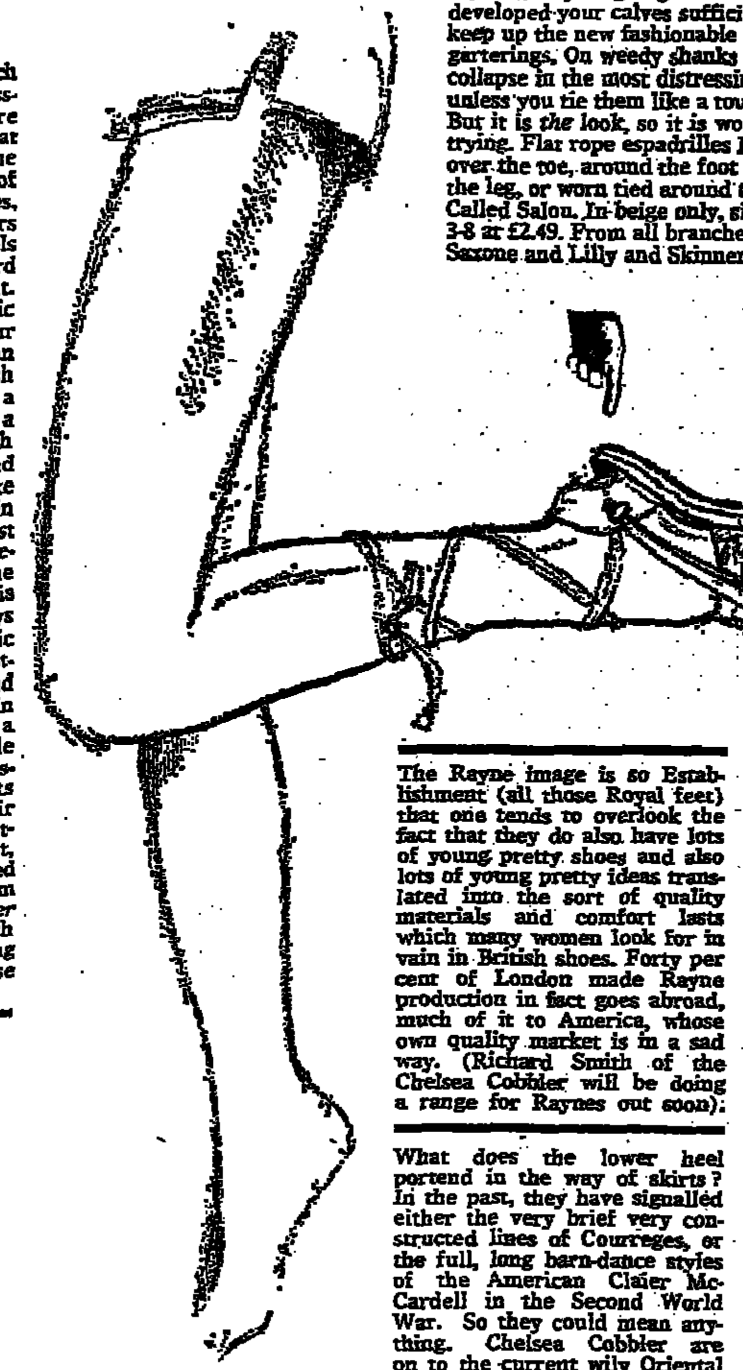
In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather —	°C
AUSTRIA					
Axamer-Lizum	—	95	—	Good	-3
Badgastein	0	65	—	Fair	5
Berwang	40	75	—	Good	-2
Brand	10	130	—	Fair	-1
Gargellen	50	80	—	Good	-5
Ischgl	20	110	—	Good	-1
Kaprun	—	270	—	Good	-7
Kitzbühel	10	60	—	Fair	-1
Lermoos	6	125	—	Good	[illegible]
Lienz	0	90	—	Poor	[illegible]
Mayrhofen	0	90	—	Poor	[illegible]
Mittersdorf	30	250	—	Good	[illegible]
Obergurgl	75	120	—	Good	[illegible]
Saalbach	15	60	—	Fair	[illegible]
Schruns	0	80	—	Fair	1
Zürs	120	170	—	Good	-5
FRANCE					
Alpe d'Huez	70	150	Hard	Sun	—
Chamonix	10	100	Spring	Sun	—
Courchevel	55	135	Spring	Sun	—
La Clusaz	5	130	Hard	Sun	—
Megeve	10	90	Spring	Sun	—
Pra-Loup	20	120	Pwdr	Sun	—
Val d'Isère	20	120	Spring	Sun	—

CAIRNGORMS: Main runs most complete new snow with many icy patches. Lower slopes a few runs complete others broken. New snow with a firm base. Vertical runs: 1,400 feet, access roads slight snow; snow level 3,000 feet. Glenshee: Main runs most complete: wet snow on a hard base. Lower slopes ample nursery areas; wet snow on a hard base. Vertical runs: 1,000 feet access roads clear snow level 2,000 feet. Glencoe: Main runs all complete: new snow on a hard base; lower slopes ample nursery areas, new snow on a hard base. Vertical runs: 1,300 feet. Access roads clear snow level 2,200 feet.

Knee down

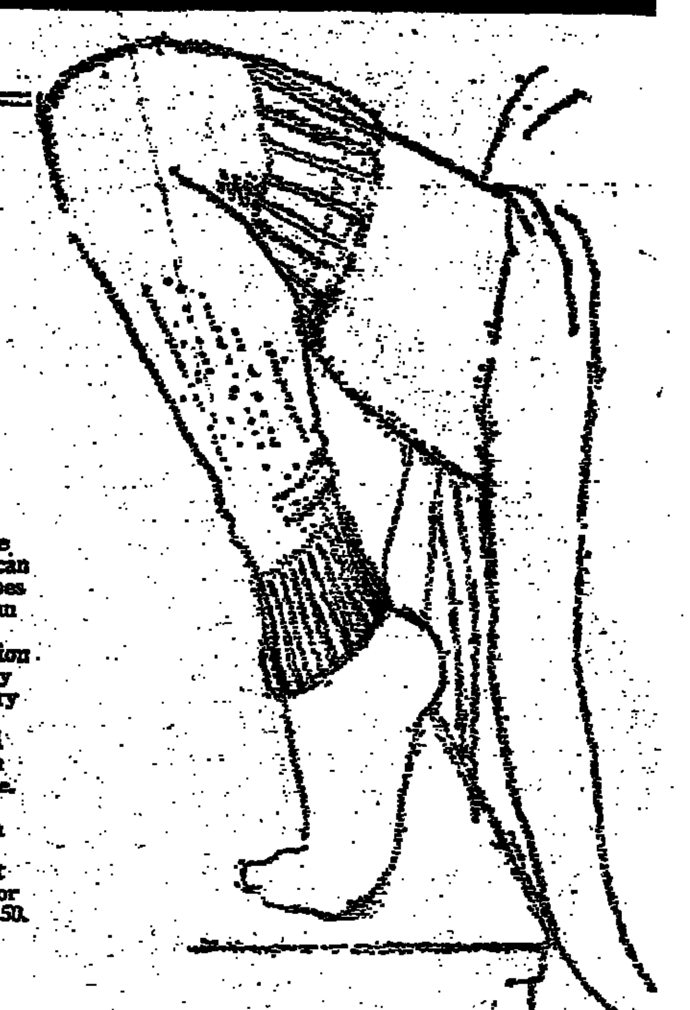
The high fashion shoe which has now reached the mass-market is one of bare, bare fronts to the tootsies. That means, in British terms, the revelation of a nasty lot of corns and bumps and callouses, the legacy of a couple of years of tottering about on high heels which push the feet forward into a (hitherto closed) front. The first step towards chic summer feet is to clean up your bumps before exposing them on the high street. Corns vanish most gratifyingly under a douche of Boots corn paint, a Chartreuse green mixture both waxy and highly volatile and with a smell that could make you forget everything else in a closed space. By far the most comprehensive range of preparations for restoring the youthful look to your feet is made by Scholl. In these days of non-breathing synthetic uppers and linings, Scholl's foot-sprays are both healthy and pong-reducing, their rough skin remover is effective (so is a pumice stone) and for people who do not mind being mistaken for a herd of elephants coming downstairs their moulded clogs remain unbeatable. Exercise your feet, too, using the newly reprinted Mensendieck exercise system book, *Look Better, Feel Better* (Souvenir Press, £3.25), which will tone up your collapsing arches as well as anything else you feel is collapsing too.



Competition in the back to nature shoes market. Last week Roots Natural Wear, of 4 Conduit Street, London, W.1 (01-493 4555), launched their eight styles of boots and shoes on which the heel is actually lower than the sole under the ball of the foot. Having tried walking on these in the past, I can report that the sensation is nothing if not strange, and struck me as most likely to appeal to people who anyway think the world is flat. But purists will persevere, because all sorts of distinguished people think you ought to walk as Nature intended, heel down first, and roll forward onto the ball of the foot. Roots Natural Footwear is the brainchild of Michael Budman and Don Green of Toronto, and the fact that a lot of people think they are on the right path is illustrated by their now having 60 shops throughout the world. Sizes for the Roots range go from 3½ to 13, and prices from £15.95 to £29.95. Shown here, Sport Root. Meanwhile, Clarks have produced a shoe called Nature Trek which also looks as if it will tilt you to the sky. The heels are not so low as on the Roots range, and part of the design is the moulding of the inner sole to the natural foot shape and a very easy fit on the uppers. From £10.99 for women, £12.99 for men.

Shopping/Prudence Glynn

All that bicycling ought to have developed your calves sufficiently to keep up the new fashionable cross-garterings. On weedy shanks they collapse in the most distressing way, unless you tie them like a tourniquet. But it is *the* look, so it is worth trying. Flat rope espadrilles laced over the toe, around the foot and up the leg, or worn tied around the ankle. Called Salou. In beige only, sizes 3-8 at £2.49. From all branches of Saxone and Lilly and Skinner.



Strappy shoes may be high fashion, but they can also be agony on the toes if the straps come at an awkward place. The most comfortable solution is shoes likes these, by Rayne, which have very thin straps laid into transparent material which in fact forms a solid vamp to the shoe. This style is called Estee and it comes in sizes 4 to 8 in black, bronze or grey patent leather, price £31.50, or in gold or silver at £33.50.

The Rayne image is so Establishment (all those Royal feet) that one tends to overlook the fact that they do also have lots of young pretty shoes and also lots of young pretty ideas translated into the sort of quality materials and comfort lasts which many women look for in vain in British shoes. Forty per cent of London made Rayne production in fact goes abroad, much of it to America, whose own quality market is in a sad way. (Richard Smith of the Chelsea Cobbler will be doing a range for Raynes out soon).

What does the lower heel portend in the way of skirts? In the past, they have signalled either the very brief very constructed lines of Courreges, or the full, long barn-dance styles of the American Claier McCardell in the Second World War. So they could mean anything. Chelsea Cobbler are on to the current wily Oriental wavelength with a little flatty pump called Ballo, made in a firm ribbed silky fabric. Sizes are 3 to 7, colours black or white, price £12.99. From all main Chelsea Cobbler branches and from their new shop at 54, King's Road, London, SW3. The correct thing to wear with these little pumps is white cotton ankle socks (yes, you do have to be rather committed) but Chelsea Cobbler are, and even offer white cotton ankle socks with a separate big toe piece for wear with their sandals with a thong between the toes. They also have nice handbags and umbrellas in matching print, but far from being Oriental these are our own dear Liberty, though come to think of it Liberty first became famous through its Oriental designs so doubtless all will be harmonious.

Practicality is never far from real-life fashion, so last chilly winter found all the trendy girls in split-sided cotton Chinoiserie, well preserved against chilblains on the nether half. Leg-warmers, accessory of every freezing dance rehearsal room, emerged as a stylish cover-up for girls who had never heard of an entre-chat. Knitted leg warmers in pretty soft shades for the summer evenings. From the Dance Centre, 12, Floral Street, London, WC2, in colours baby pink, white, hyacinth blue, peach, orange, lilac, and darker colours for Autumn £2.90. The great advantage of leg warmers over thick woolly stockings is that they have no feet to spread your shoes, nor do they require bracing at the top. Indeed, they should be worn ever so slightly wrinkled.

The newest line in trousers are harem-style or tied in with matching or contrasting thongs, a sort of super smart development of the bicycle clip idea. For the cheapest way of getting the new look in shoes and trousers with one purchase is to buy espadrilles (suitably ethnic for this year) with long ties which you can knot round your ankles. Canvas espadrilles with rope wedge heels called Crete. Lace them up the leg or tie round the ankle. In colours beige, blue and rust from all main branches of Dolcis. Sizes 3-8 at £7.99.

Drawings by Jeanette Collins

Katie Stewart

Making a shining egg sample

Easter eggs are moulded in two halves. This allows for sweets or some kind of confection to be placed inside before the halves are sealed together. Traditionally the moulds were made in tin, but nowadays they are made in Plexiglass, a see through plastic material. The modern ones are easier to use because they are flexible, but the traditional tin moulds give a very good shine to the egg.

Moulds can be plain or have a zig-zag line effect called a crocodile finish. Shoppers at Leon Jaeggi, 232 Tottenham Court Road, London, W1, will find they can buy either. Sizes range from a small egg of just over three inches to larger ones up to nine inches. The moulds are sold in two halves and the prices for one half mould range from £1.63 to £5.30. Out of town customers should ring Leon Jaeggi at 01-580 1957 to inquire about sizes available and the post paid prices.

You can get by with one mould, using the same mould for both halves of the egg, but it is quicker to work with a pair. Make sure that any mould to be used is absolutely clean and dry. Metal moulds should be buffed up with a soft cloth to polish the inside to a good shine. This is because chocolate reflects or takes the shine from a surface, and the shinier the mould, the shinier the egg.

Use Kake Brand chocolate cake covering to make your Easter eggs. Kake Brand melts to a thin consistency that is easy to use, and it can be bought in almost any supermarket or grocers shop.

Chocolate for work like this must be melted with care to avoid overheating. The handy way to melt chocolate is over a saucepan of hot water in a basin. Select a basin that fits neatly into the rim of one of your larger saucepans. Fill the saucepan not more than half full of water but not so deep that it would touch the base of the bowl. Bring the water to the boil, then draw off the heat.

Meanwhile make sure that the bowl is quite dry inside and break the chocolate into it; about ½lb will make two to three eggs depending on the size. Set the bowl over the pan of hot water and give an occasional stir until the chocolate is melted and lukewarm. It is important never to have the water actually boiling in the pan underneath the bowl, because escaping steam might cause the chocolate to tighten up. The smallest drop of water dripped into melted chocolate will make it stiff and unusable.

Take one half shell at a time and spoon sufficient melted chocolate into the base of the mould to ensure a good coating. Tip the mould gently in the hand to distribute the melted chocolate evenly over the inside—right up to the rim. When the coating begins to thicken, pour the excess chocolate back into the bowl and turn the mould upside down on a tray lined with a sheet of greaseproof paper. This means any extra chocolate inside will run down and form a good rim around the inside of the mould.

Leave to set in a cool place, but not the refrigerator—rapid cooling can cause eggs to crack. After about 30 minutes, repeat the procedure so that you get a good covering of chocolate inside the mould. Now leave the lined moulds for at least two hours until they have set firm.

Basically what happens during this time is that the chocolate, as it cools and sets firm, shrinks slightly. As a result when loosened round the edges, the chocolate should drop out of the mould retaining the shape. To unmould the egg, take a small pointed knife and gently shave away the surplus chocolate around the rim of the mould to tidy it up. Gently tap the outside of the mould using the handle of the knife and it will either fall out, or you will find that you can gently ease it out with your fingers. It may take one or two broken eggs to start getting them perfect, but with patience you will find they come out beautifully. Any broken pieces can be added to the bowl of melted chocolate, resoftened and used again.

Carefully transfer the chocolate egg halves, using a flat palette knife or a fish slice—remember, fingers will mark the shiny surface. Some small sweets or sugared almonds can be placed in one half and the egg is ready to seal. The easiest way to seal the two halves together is to warm a baking tray over the heat and set the empty half egg, rim side down, on the warm surface for a moment so that it softens slightly. Then place the two halves together matching the rims perfectly and leave in a cool place when the chocolate will firm up again and seal the egg quite closed.

You can personalize each egg by piping on a name with melted chocolate, or scatter a few dots of melted chocolate on the surface to which a coloured Smartie or pretty sugar flower decorations could be pressed—on setting up, the chocolate will hold any added decoration quite firmly. Tie a pretty ribbon round the eggs and keep them until Easter Day.

Melted chocolate, particularly any left over from making an Easter egg, can be made into attractive curls and shapes for garnishing desserts and gateaux. If you spread melted chocolate—not too thinly—on a cool surface, like marble slab or a baking tin, and let it set you can shave off chocolate flakes for decorating a mousse or trifle.

The really curly rolls of chocolate are achieved by catching the chocolate just before it sets firm. The secret is to use a sharp knife and to shave off the chocolate rolls by pushing the knife away from you and sideways at the same time. Thin slivers of chocolate will curl up like wood shavings as they come from under the blade. By spreading the chocolate on the shiny side of a smooth sheet of kitchen foil, and stamping out shapes with a cutter or marking into squares with a knife, you can make pretty cut-outs for decorating cakes. When set firm these can be peeled off the paper to reveal a shiny undersurface.

Chocolate cases are lovely for serving party ice creams and they can be made by spooning melted chocolate into paper baking cases—use them double to get a firm support—and with the back of a teaspoon, spread the chocolate over the base and around the sides. Then turn them upside down onto a plate and leave until quite firm. The paper can be carefully peeled away leaving behind a perfect chocolate shape. They will keep very well in a tin to be used when needed.

One of my favourite Easter recipes is a simple one that children could do for themselves. Tiny Easter nests made of a melted chocolate and Rice Krispie mixture, filled with coloured marzipan eggs. They are very effective to look at and remarkably easy to make.

Easter nests with marzipan eggs

Makes 12

2 oz plain chocolate;
2 level teacupfuls Rice Krispies.

For the marzipan eggs

2 oz ground almonds;
1 oz castor sugar;
1 oz sifted icing sugar;
1 tablespoon lightly mixed egg;
A few drops vanilla essence.

Break the chocolate into pieces and melt in a large basin set over a saucepan of hot water. Remove from the heat and add the Rice Krispies. Stir the mixture with a spoon to coat the Rice Krispies thoroughly with melted chocolate. Dividing the mixture equally, spoon into 12 paper cake cases and with the back of a teaspoon hollow out each one slightly to make a nest shape. Leave in a cold place or refrigerator to set firm.

For the marzipan eggs, put the ground almonds, castor sugar and sifted icing sugar in a bowl. Then, using a fork, stir in the lightly mixed egg and almond essence. Mix to a firm marzipan in the bowl and then turn out onto a surface sprinkled with castor sugar and knead lightly. Divide the marzipan into three portions. Leave one plain and colour the other two with a drop of pink and of green colouring. Knead the colouring into each portion. Keeping the colours separate, roll small pieces of each one to get 12 small marzipan eggs from each portion. Then place three eggs (one of each colour) in every nest.

Belgium

a Special Report on the meeting point for Europe

Cockpit of war now centre of treaties

by Michael Hornsby

or centuries down to the cond World War Belgium, most as a matter of geo- aphy, inevitably has been e cockpit of the inter- ecine struggles of the ations of Western Europe. he Belgians, Flemings and 'alloons have spent the eater part of their history the outpost of other peo- e's empires—Roman, ank, Burgundian, Habs- irg, Spanish, French and utch. In its past 145 years an independent state elgium's neutrality has en twice violated by its eat neighbour, Germany.

Located at the meeting- iint of two great cultures d heavily dependent for eir prosperity on external ade, the Belgians came to cognize sooner than most at their security would st be guaranteed in a irope of interdependent tions. Since the Second orld War they have been the forefront of moves wards greater European litical and economic tegration and now find emselves at the centre of web of international eaties and commitments.

Even before the end of e war the governments-in- ile of Belgium, Holland d Luxembourg signed an onomic treaty in London at gave birth to Benelux iough the difficulties of stwar reconstruction were delay its fulfilment until 48 and to restrict its full eration for several years ereafter). These difficul- s served a useful purpose helping to clear the ound for the later uguration of the Euro- n Economic Community, which the Benelux Cus- ms Union was a fore- nner.

bly represented by M ul-Henri Spaak, Belgium yed an active part im- diately after the war in drafting of the United ions charter and in secur- the signatures to it of 47 ions. M Spaak was ap- nted the first president the United Nations neral Assembly. In 1948 ne the signing of the aty of Brussels, of which Spaak, by now Prime nister, was a passionate ocate. This linked the nelux countries with tain and France in a 50- ar agreement providing r mutual aid in military, onomic and social atters.

The Brussels Treaty, how- er, was soon eclipsed by formation in 1949 of the rth Atlantic Treaty ganization, which saw an pansionist world com- nist movement rather n a renascent Germany the main threat. Through eements signed in Paris 1954, the Brussels Treaty s revised and extended to lude West Germany and ly, thereby establishing Western European ion and allowing West rmany to become a mem- of Nato. Membership of Atlantic Alliance has re- ined one of the corner- nes of Belgium's foreign licy since then.

This was demonstrated by alacrity with which Bel- um offered asylum when esident de Gaulle ordered to out of France in the e 1960s. Since 1967 Bel- um has played host not ly to Nato's political head- arters, housed on the out- irts of Brussels in build- gs whose makeshift air ill betrays the speed with ich they were constructed, r also to the Supreme adquarters of the Allied wers Europe (SHAPE), ich is located at the for- r Belgian military and air rce training centre at steau, near Mons.

Belgium has been active in e foundation of all the ain European organizations the postwar era: the uncil of Europe, one of ose first steps was to set the College of Europe in uges, the Organization for onomic Cooperation and evelopment, the European oal and Steel Community CSC), the EEC and uratom.

Since 1968 the head arters of the EEC, uratom and the ECSC have een housed together in the ar-shaped building known the Berlaymont in the rue e la Loi in Brussels. It eems only a matter of time efore they are joined by he European Parliament now oscillating between trasbourg and Luxem- bourg).

It was not surprising that at the end of 1974 the heads of government of the Nine hould have turned to Mr Léo Tindemans, the present Prime Minister of Belgium, for the report on the future development of European Union which was made public earlier this year. Its main recommendations — faster progress towards eco- nomic and monetary union and common foreign and eventually defence policies —have long been Belgian objectives.

Beyond those objectives lies a federal Europe, a "Europe des régions" rather than a "Europe des patries", which is by no means yet the accepted goal of all of Belgium's partners. It is, however, undoubtedly closer to the pan-European idealism of the founding fathers of the EEC than the loose free trade area dominated by two or three large powers which often seems to be the aim of policy-makers in Paris, London and Bonn. That being so, Belgium and its Benelux partners have an important role in keeping alive the original promise of the European idea.

Belgium's emergence as an independent state dates only from 1831. At the end of the Napoleonic wars, whose last great battle was fought on Belgian soil, the great powers decided at the Congress of Vienna in 1815 to unite Holland and Belgium under the crown of the House of Orange largely, it would appear, to satisfy Castlereagh's conceptions of Britain's strategic needs. Economically the union was satisfactory, the maritime trade and colonial possessions of the north complementing the agriculture and industry of the south.

But from the outset differences of language, religion and temperament made it impossible for the two races to live together politically. By 1830 Roman Catholics and liberals in Belgium were making common cause against what was seen as alien rule, and in the same year the citizens of Brussels rose in revolt. At a conference of the great powers in London in 1831, which was dominated by Palmerston, Belgium was recognized as an independent state (though the Dutch King, William I, took another eight years to accept defeat).

Palmerston was alarmed by the enthusiasm among many Belgians for France. Having threatened war early in 1831 when the Belgian crown had been offered to the Duc de Nemours, the second son of Louise-Philippe of France, he was subsequently instrumental in persuading the Belgian Parliament to elect Leopold Saxe-Coburg, a British citizen and uncle of the future Queen Victoria, as king. He then bullied and cajoled the other powers into endorsing a guarantee of perpetual neutrality for the new kingdom.

The Belgians were not particularly eager for this guarantee of neutrality, which had been imposed on them by the wishes of the great powers and especially by the supposed needs of British foreign policy—Palmerston's desire to keep France out of the Low Countries. Nevertheless, it served them well and enabled a country which had been the battlefield of many armies to enjoy immunity from wars for more than 80 years.

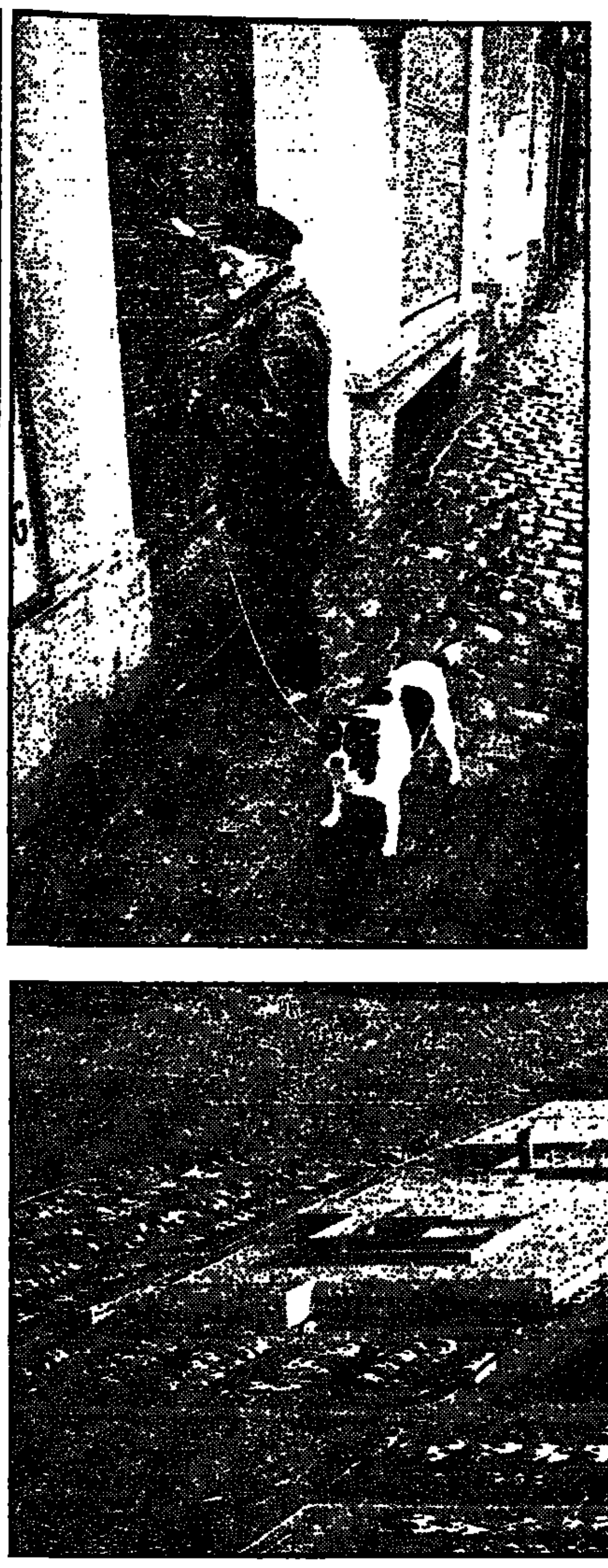
This era ended in 1914 with the German invasion and occupation. After the First World War Belgium was released from the more artificial aspects of the neutrality imposed by the treaties of 1831 and 1839, which had effectively precluded the exercise of an independent foreign policy. (This had been partly responsible for the incidental curiosity whereby Belgium acquired its African possessions as the result of a private business venture of King Leopold II.)

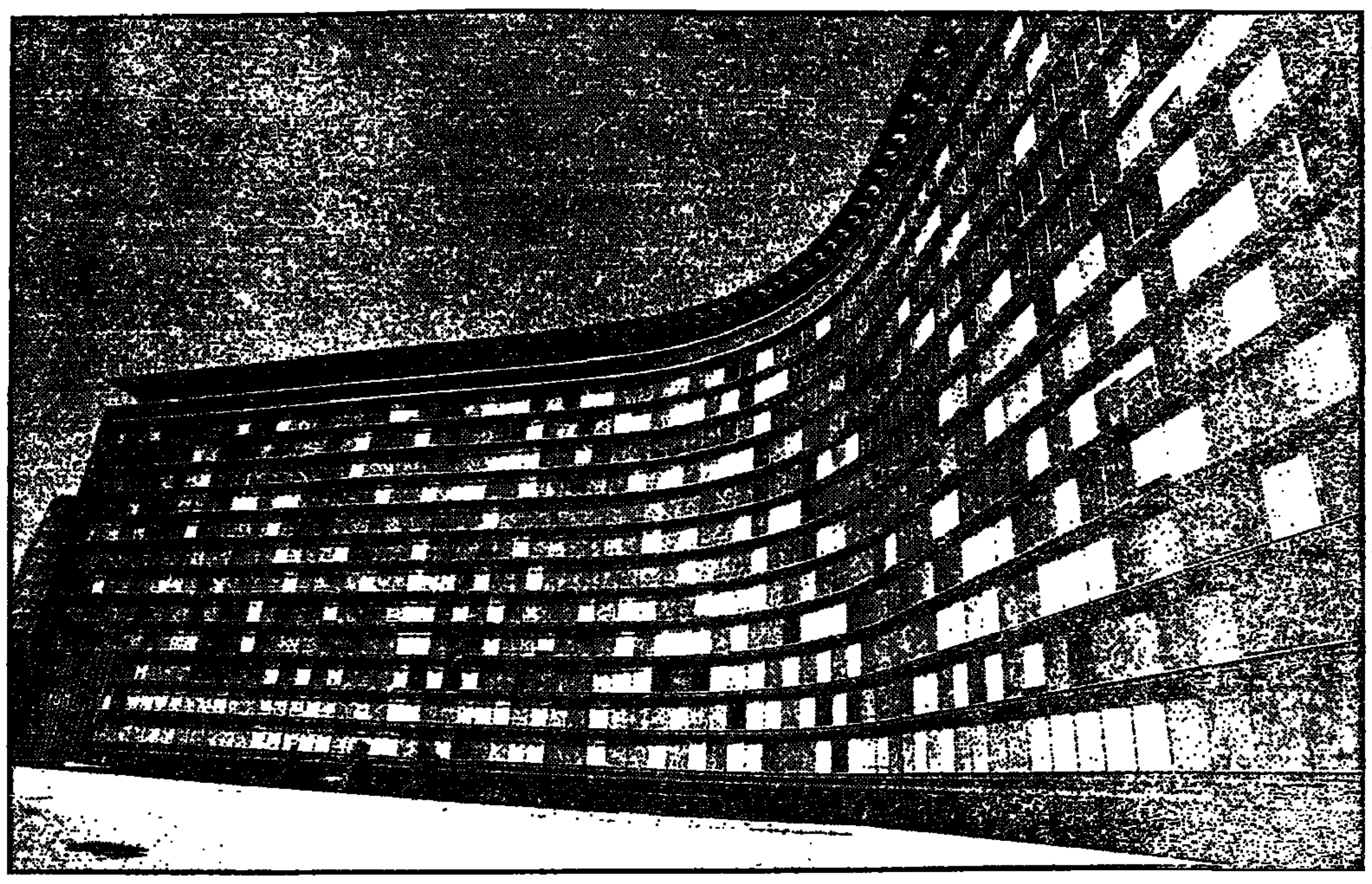
Belgium's security still depended essentially on three countries—Britain, France and Germany—and it sought to bolster it by a network of pacts. Among the earliest and most enthusiastic signatories of the League of Nations, Belgium concluded the Locarno Pact in 1925 under which the frontiers of France and Belgium with Germany were guaranted in treaties signed not only by these countries but also by Italy and Britain. The pact was violated when Hitler reoccupied the Rhineland in March 1936.

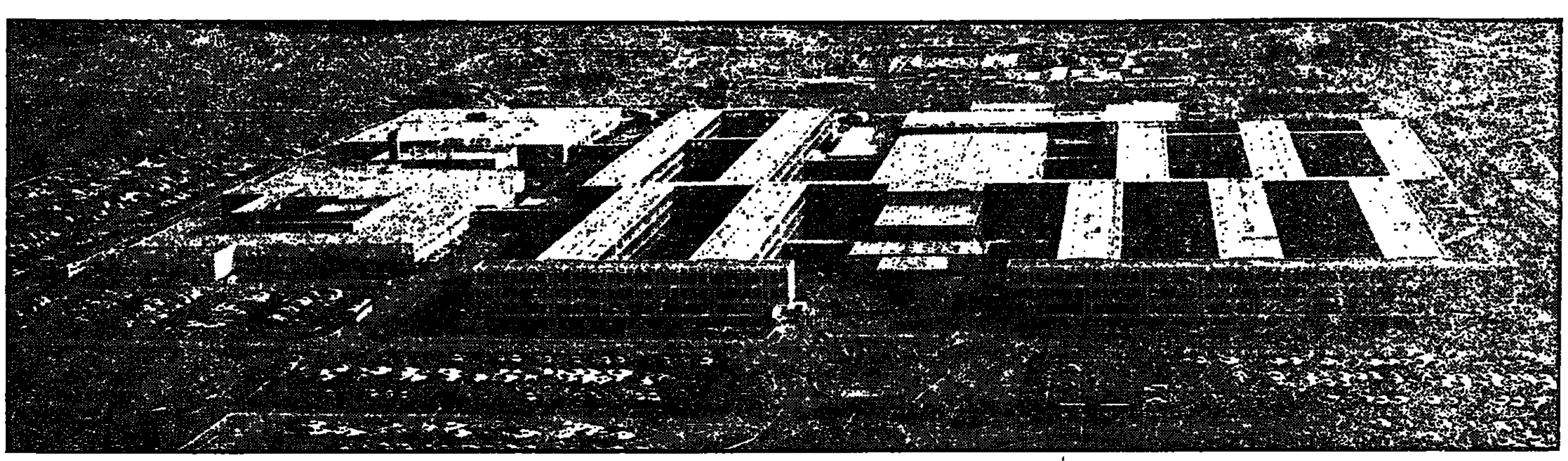
In 1928 Belgium was one of the 65 signatories of the Kellogg-Briand Pact, which condemned recourse to war to settle differences, while admitting the right of a nation to use force in its legitimate defence. At the same time the Belgians were seeking preferential customs arrangements with Holland, Luxembourg and the Scandinavian countries, but these efforts were much hampered by the intense economic nationalism of the depression years.

In May 1940 Germany invaded Belgium for the second time in less than 30 years after being refused permission to send troops across Belgian soil for an assault on France. Apparently hoping to emulate his father, King Albert, who in the First World War had never been dislodged by the Germans from a few square miles on the left bank of the river Yser, Leopold III refused to go into exile with his Government. After 18 days of resistance, he was forced to surrender and with his family was made a prisoner of war.

The King's war role, for which some historians think he has been judged over harshly, was at the centre of the constitutional crisis which led to his abdication in 1951 in favour of his son, Bandouin.







Business in Brussels : the sprawling Nato headquarters ; above right, the EEC building ; above left, humbler premises.

Others will control revival

by David Cross

Although most economists agree that the end of the longest postwar recession in Belgium is now in sight, some anxious glances are being cast towards neighbouring countries. This is because the extent of the country's economic recovery will depend not only on internal developments but on events in West Germany, France and The Netherlands.

Strategically sited at the crossroads of the great commercial and industrial routes of Western Europe, the Belgian economy has always relied on external trade for its main impulse. This has been fostered by a high level of consumption among the country's small but prosperous population and by the requirement to export surplus finished products to pay for imports of badly needed raw materials.

Over the years these elements have made Belgium one of the world's foremost exporting countries. More than 50 per cent of the country's gross national product now derives directly from its export trade, compared with some 30 per cent in 1953. With about 0.3 per cent of the world's population and a 4.5 per cent share of world trade, Belgium is now the industrialized world's eighth largest exporter.

In an economic block like the European Community it is no surprise that Belgium's best customers and suppliers are those countries which also signed the Treaty of Rome. Nearly three quarters of Belgium's trade is with West Germany, France, The Netherlands, Italy and the United Kingdom. Outside the Community, the United States is the country's most significant export market and supplier.

Last year, for example, 22.3 per cent of Belgian exports went to West Germany, 19.1 per cent to France, 17.1 per cent to The Netherlands, 6.5 per cent to Britain, 4 per cent to Italy and 4.1 per cent to the United States. West Germany was also Belgium's most important supplier, providing 22 per cent of imports, followed by France with 17.4 per cent, The Netherlands with 16.8 per cent, the United Kingdom with 6.2 per cent, Italy with 3.9 per cent and the United States with 6.4 per cent.

Belgian exports consist almost entirely of industrial manufactures like metals, machinery, machine tools, transport equipment, chemicals and textiles. Over the years since the Second World War the emphasis has changed from half-finished to more perfected products which require less manpower but more knowledge. Thus Belgium now exports less and less steel and more and more special steels and nonferrous metals.

The major role played by exports on Belgium's economic performance has during periods of boom helped it to become one of the wealthiest countries in the industrialized world. During the early stages of the present recession it also meant a postponement of the inflation and production slump which had already begun to hit less-fortunately placed countries like France and Britain.

But when the fall in world trade and the increase in oil prices finally filtered through, Belgium was less able to cope than its immediate neighbours like Holland and West Germany.

In 1974, when the slump was at its lowest point, consumer prices rose by more than 15 per cent compared with increases of 6.1 per cent in West Germany and 10.7 per cent in The Netherlands and unemployment to nearly 6 per cent of the working population compared with about 5 per cent in the other two countries.

Although the present rate of inflation has fallen to about the 10 per cent level, the number of unemployed has now reached an all-time record level of more than 220,000 representing 8.7 per cent of the working population. By contrast, West German and Dutch inflation rates are now running at about 5 and 8 per cent respectively and unemployment at about 6 per cent of their workforces.

The failure to handle the recession more skilfully was partly political. Draconian economic measures to combat inflation and stimulate production were completely watered down in the course of discussions first among the Government's coalition parties and subsequently with employers and trade unions.

Thus, what started out as a price freeze has now developed into a lax system of prior notification for price rises, while a wage freeze has turned into a postponement of pay increases for the country's top wage-earners.

To his credit, Mr Léo Tindemans, the well-intentioned but almost powerless Prime Minister, pinpointed the country's major economic priority during the early stages of the recession. "The terrifying problem facing us is how to make our prices competitive again. Economic experts have established that in comparable sectors of industry even the United States is now producing more cheaply than Belgium", he said.

The erosion of Belgium's competitiveness, originally because of the worldwide increase in raw materials' prices, particularly oil, has been compounded by the tight link between prices and wages. Under one of the most complex indexing schemes in the industrialized world, rises in the consumer price index automatically trigger off wage increases for most employees in the private and public sectors.

The employers' organization, the Federation des Entreprises, has calculated that indexation alone has been responsible for two-thirds of rises in hourly wage costs during most of 1974 and 1975 when the labour cost per unit increased by an average of 13 and 25 per cent respectively.

To combat this situation, the Government has made several attempts to sever the index link, but to little avail. It has now turned its attention to reforming the consumer price index to remove some of the present anomalies which can make it fluctuate wildly from month to month. But the Government's past performance on the issue and strong opposition from the trade unions to any changes hold out little prospect of success.

But in spite of high levels of inflation and unemployment, Belgium has retained respectable balance of payments and trade surpluses throughout the recession. Last year, for example, the payments surplus totalled some 25,000m Belgian francs (about £300m) and the trade surplus some 6,000m francs, compared with 30,000m francs and 28,000m francs respectively a year earlier.

As economic activity in most of the European Community begins to pick up again, most economists forecast a new improvement in Belgium's balance of payments surplus in 1976. According to estimates made by the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the surplus on current account will total some £750m this year compared with £625m in 1975 and £350m in 1974.

But just as the recession hit Belgium later than most of the rest of the industrialized world so too will economic revival. Moreover the strength and the duration of the upturn will be largely dependent, not on domestic economic policy but on demand in countries like West Germany and The Netherlands.

Rivalry brings concessions

by David Cross

As the Belgian economy begins to move out of recession the Government is preparing for a campaign to attract foreign investment. The Ministry for Flemish Economic Affairs was the first off the mark last December when it sent a six-man team to New York and Chicago to tell Americans that Belgium still welcomed foreign capital.

Mr Jean Gol, the State Secretary for Walloon Economic Affairs, later launched a major publicity effort to make the French-speaking south of the country better known in other parts of Europe. The campaign includes the publication of a lavish dossier on the region and participation by the ministry in foreign trade fairs in Lyons, Hanover and Dusseldorf.

The rivalry between two main language groups is one of the main reasons why Belgium has traditionally offered more generous investment incentives to outsiders than most European countries. Successive governments have made sure that both parts of the country are granted equality of treatment. Although the competition is usually friendly there have been cases where foreign firms have played one half of the linguistic community against the other to secure the best concessions.

But in spite of the equality of investment concessions, Flanders has traditionally received the largest share of investment, mainly because of its proximity to the coast. Antwerp province, the hinterland of Europe's second largest port with its direct access to the North Sea, is the favourite site for multinational companies. In the south, the French-speaking province of Hainaut, centred on the former mining cities of Charleroi and Mons, comes second.

Between 1970 and 1974, for example, about 55 per cent of foreign and mixed investment in the manufacturing sector went to Flanders and only 37 per cent to Wallonia. The remaining 8 per cent went to the Brussels area, which is defined as a separate development region.

The Government's policy of actively encouraging foreign investment, with the main aim of stimulating export-oriented growth industries, dates from 1959. Since then, and until the end of 1974, foreign and mixed investment in new factories had outstripped purely Belgian participation. Between 1959 and 1974 foreigners invested about 95,500m francs (about £1,200m) in new factories compared with 68,500m francs *provided by the Belgians.*

Over the years the Government investment policy has been updated to assure even more generous proportions in the so-called Loi Leburton of 1970, named after Mr Edmond Leburton, then Socialist Economics Minister and later Prime Minister.

So attractive was the Leburton scheme that it ran into trouble with the European Community's competition department in Brussels. In the event it had to be modified to take account of European Commission fears that it could distort competition with other EEC regions.

As things stand, foreign companies investing in Belgium are entitled to all manner of inducements, ranging from loans at reduced rates of interest to capital grants and job creation premiums and from tax exemptions to state guarantees. Furthermore, central government or local authorities may acquire, equip and improve land and make it available to the user by sale or hire.

Foreign employees of multinationals get generous tax allowances and other fringe benefits not available in most other European countries.

Failure to trim allowances

Besides direct government aid, Belgium has many other benefits for foreign companies and their employees. For managements, there is a highly skilled labour force, lax exchange controls, few strikes and little local resentment against foreigners. For employees, there are plenty of good schools teaching in most European languages and ideal living conditions in suburbs which have sprung up mainly to house the well-off foreign populations.

Well-intentioned socialist attempts to trim tax concessions for foreign employees have failed to get very far. A move about a year ago to reduce tax allowances for foreigners working temporarily in Belgium for companies based abroad raised such an outcry among multinationals like Ford and ITT that it was hastily abandoned by the Government.

Despite the recession, foreign investment in 1974, the last year for which complete statistics are available, reached its highest level since 1969. A record total of 917 planned projects worth nearly 25,000m francs was split mainly among American, French, Dutch and British investors. *For the first* time since 1969 American investments represented more than half the total with projects worth 12,300m francs. French investments during the same year totalled 4,600m francs, Dutch 4,450m and British 557m.

Outside the United States and EEC member states, Japan was the biggest investor in 1974 with a total of 555m francs. Indeed, Belgium has been the first choice in West Europe for Japanese overseas investments in manufacturing industry.

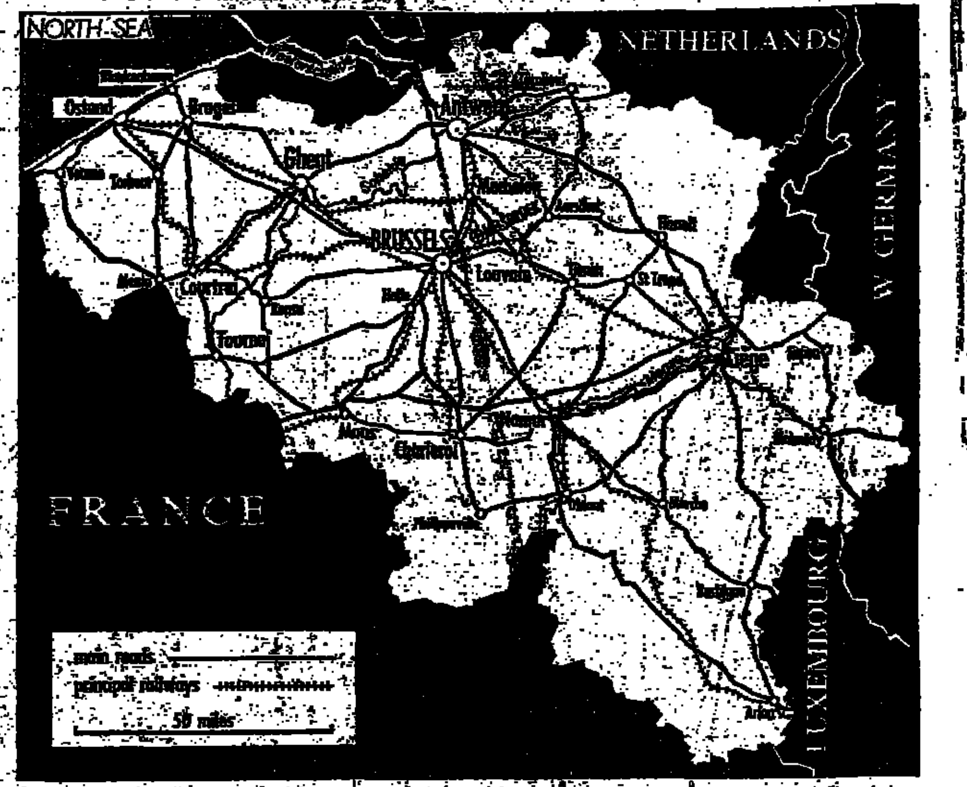
In 1975, however, when the recession was at its worst in Belgium, foreign investment probably fell to its lowest level since 1971. According to provisional figures just released by the Economics Affairs Ministry, planned investments totalled only some 10,900m francs. For the first time the French, with total investments of about 3,300m francs in 82 projects, outstripped the Americans who invested 2,700m francs in 85 projects. The British were in third place with nearly 1,300m francs invested in 62 schemes.

The record British share last year will undoubtedly cheer the active British Chamber of Commerce for Belgium and Luxembourg which has played an important role in helping and advising potential British investors. It has just published a much expanded second version of its *Business Briefing for Belgium*, which is essential reading for any businessman wanting details of the country's investment opportunities.

The Government's campaign to stimulate investment is clearly designed to produce better results in 1976 as the worldwide recession recedes. Belgium still offers potential foreign investors an *almost ideal* environment, but it remains to be seen whether the golden years of the early 1970s can ever be recreated.

Projected throughway to the Mediterranean

by Patricia Kelly



Although Belgium is small in area, its geographical location, on the busiest shipping lane in he world, the North Sea, and in the centre of the more industrialized areas of Western Europe, makes it one of the principal gateways for EEC internal and external trade and traffic.

This is one of the main reasons why its capital, Brussels, has become the headquarters of numerous European organizations and the country as a whole can afford three seaports: Antwerp and Ghent, both linked with the North Sea by the River Schelde, and the Bruges port of Zeebrugge on the North Sea itself.

The country's leading port is Antwerp, the second largest in Europe after Rotterdam and Belgium's link with the rest of the world. In spite of its location inland, it is nearer to the Sandettie bank (the meeting-place of all the main ocean routes in the North Sea), than any other main continental port. As well as its own national hinterland, Antwerp boasts an international hinterland including the industrial regions of northern and eastern France, Luxembourg, the Saar, the Rhineland and the Ruhr.

The port handled an estimated 61 million tonnes in goods traffic last year and about 48 ships a day. Strikes are rare among the 12,000-strong force of dockers who are hired on a daily basis by cargo-handling and stevedoring firms. The handling of cargo is frequently handed down from father to son. Traditionally, there is strong competition between teams handling ships, and Antwerp has a high reputation for fast turnovers.

Antwerp is also a thriving industrial and banking centre: the province is world famous as a centre of the diamond industry and trade. The heaviest concentration of modern industry lies there. During the period 1959-73 foreign investment in Belgium totalled about $3,080m and $965m of *this* was concentrated in Antwerp, the most important ventures being American and West German.

It has attracted shipbuilding (Cockerill Yares Hoboken) and several important ship-repairing firms such as Beliard Murdoch and Mercantile Marine Engineering. Firms specializing in the manufacture or assembly of motor vehicles (General Motors, Ford) or in oil refining (Esso, Occidental Oil, British Petroleum, Petrofina, Albatros) have been established for many years. These were followed by a number of storage companies for oils and oil products.

Loading and unloading in Antwerp: container ship in the Churchill Dock and (top) traffic near the Market Square.

While it has lost about 20 million tonnes a year of oil imports to Rotterdam, oil is instead piped to Antwerp from Rotterdam. Besides arrivals in seagoing vessels, last year the pipeline delivered about 18 million tonnes of crude oil. As a result Esso continued building a new refinery and Albatros has increased its refining capacity.

The port offers storage and distribution services for an exhaustive list of products. Recent investments have been made in the import-export sector and the municipality has granted concessions for sites specially intended for the construction of warehouses for the distribution of general cargo.

One of the main routes for cargo transport between Antwerp and its European hinterland is the dense Belgian canal network. Work has been carried out to widen and moderaize the Albert canal to make it navigable for large bached barge voyages. At an international level, the opening of the new Scheldt-Rhine link in September has reduced the distance from Antwerp to the Rhine by 40km and makes navigations with large pusher-tug convoys possible.

In the future the projected Rhine-Rhône link will open up a throughway to the Mediterranean (by the Albert canal, Meuse and Rhône rivers. The Rhine-Danube canal route, under development on and off since 1922, will open up access to the Balkan countries and the Black Sea (by the Rhine, Main and Danube rivers).

Twelve major lines of Belgium's railway network end at Antwerp and about *200 fully laden goods trains* arrive or depart daily. Regular special container trains leave the Antwerp container centre every day for Paris, Cologne, Milan and Rotterdam.

Antwerp is a major junction in the European motorway network as the seven E-roads (European motorways) which cross Belgian territory either run through Antwerp or are directly linked to it by motorways.

These are: E-3 (Stockholm-Lisbon); E-5 (London-Istanbul) to which Antwerp is linked through Liège or Brussels; E-9 (Amsterdam-Geneva) easily reached from Antwerp by the E-3, E-39 or King Baudouin motorways; E-10 (Amsterdam - Antwerp - Brussels - Paris); E-39 connecting Antwerp, by the south Netherlands, with Aachen and the German autobahn network; E-41 joining Liège to Charleroi and running onwards into north France. The King Baudouin motorway links Antwerp with Liège and the German motorway network.

There are about 300 regular road services from Antwerp mainly to the following European countries: Austria, Benelux, Britain, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, the Irish Republic, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Yugoslavia. Regular road services are also operated between Near and Middle East cities and Antwerp.

Zaventem, or Brussels national airport, is less than an hour away from Antwerp by road, and is used by most large airlines for direct connexions to all continents and is one of the largest West European air-freight ports. The airport at Deurne-Antwerp runs regular daily flights to London and Amsterdam and is now expanding as an air-freight *centre.*

Banks look abroad to meet customers' needs

by David Blake

The banks in Belgium play a central role in the country's economy. The largest, Société Générale and Bruxelles-Lambert, form part of the two wide-ranging holding companies, which have spread from banking to own a large share of industry. Since industry is forced by the size of the country to look outwards (exports are the highest in the world on a per capita basis) the banks have been forced to look abroad to meet the needs of their clients who are in some cases also members of the same group.

The country's third bank, Kredietbank, has become international in a *different* way. Originally just a small regional banking group in the Flemish-speaking north, it has become one of the largest single operators in the Euromarkets. But it has done this not from Brussels or Antwerp, but from Luxembourg, where the banking laws have attracted banks from all over Europe and the tax rules have tended to divert international business from Belgium.

This concern with the international side of business can sometimes backfire, and in recent weeks there has been a graphic illustration of the sort of tension which can afflict a small country. The Belgian franc has been under severe pressure, threatening its participation in the snake of European currencies.

Foreign exchange is an important part of the business of any bank which has large exporters among its customers, and there is also considerable speculative interest in it whenever it seems fairly clear that a significant shift in parities is about to occur. That can be a very profitable speculation, but for every profit made, somebody else makes a loss. It was just such a loss, estimated at about £43m, which cast a shadow over the most important event of recent years in the Belgian banking industry.

This was the merger last year, after considerable preliminary work, of the Banque de Bruxelles and the Banque Lambert to form the Bruxelles-Lambert group. This merger brought together two of the strands in banking in recent years. The Bruxelles group is at the centre of one of the old-established Belgian holding companies, with a large *but somewhat patchy branch* network across the country. Although under its chairman, M Lois Camu, it had built up a reputation for aggressive marketing of its banking services, it clearly *represented* the "establishment" in Belgian banking to an extent exceeded *only* by the Société Générale itself, whose presence is felt everywhere.

The Lambert group, on the other hand, has been one of the *success* stories of the postwar period, building from a small base to a reputation for fast takeovers. Its head, Baron Lambert, is a well-known patron of modern art, leading examples of which decorate the honeycomb-like headquarters from which his bank is run.

Thus the merger not only increases the size of the branch network and financial base, but it provides two complementary styles. However, the very basis seemed to have been called in question when it was discovered that the Banque de Bruxelles had incurred heavy foreign exchange losses because of unwise activity by some of its dealers. *The* loss, although big, ought to be set against an international perspective in which a number of the most respectable banks in Europe lost heavily in their foreign exchange activities in what seems to have been a pattern of inadequate supervision, caused by the slowness of banks everywhere to adjust to the new regime of floating exchange rates.

In spite of some questioning, the merger has gone *ahead and has seemed* to work happily. Both banks have benefited from the fact that each tends to be strongest where the partner is weakest. None the less, there is considerable overlapping of branches and there may well be closures. If this does happen, it would reverse the trend of the 1960s, which saw considerable expansion in the number of branches.

A major factor encouraging this was the change *which occurred in the* economy. During the 1960s, Belgium emerged from a long period of decline to become one of the fast-growing economies of Europe. This change was accompanied by two others which made it necessary for the banks to take new branches to their customers.

The first was a shift in population and prosperity from the old, French-speaking industrial belt in Wal*lonia towards the Flemish* districts in Flanders. The Belgian banking establishment, which is closely integrated with the country's upper class, has always been French speaking, and the banks have tended to be French speaking. Only the Kredietbank, which had prided itself on its Flemish origins, could claim to be really strong in the north, and competitors were forced to open branches there to attract business.

The second change was the influx of foreign banks, mainly looking for business from multinational companies but also casting a friendly eye on Belgian companies. The influx of banks, above all American, was part of a broader invasion which was encouraged by the authorities and which posed a direct challenge to the domination of Société Générale.

This was no accident, for many in Belgium believed that "La Générale", as it is widely known, had not done as well for the country as it could have done. According to this view, "La Générale's" excessive caution had slowed industrial development and kept the country out of new, fast growing industries.

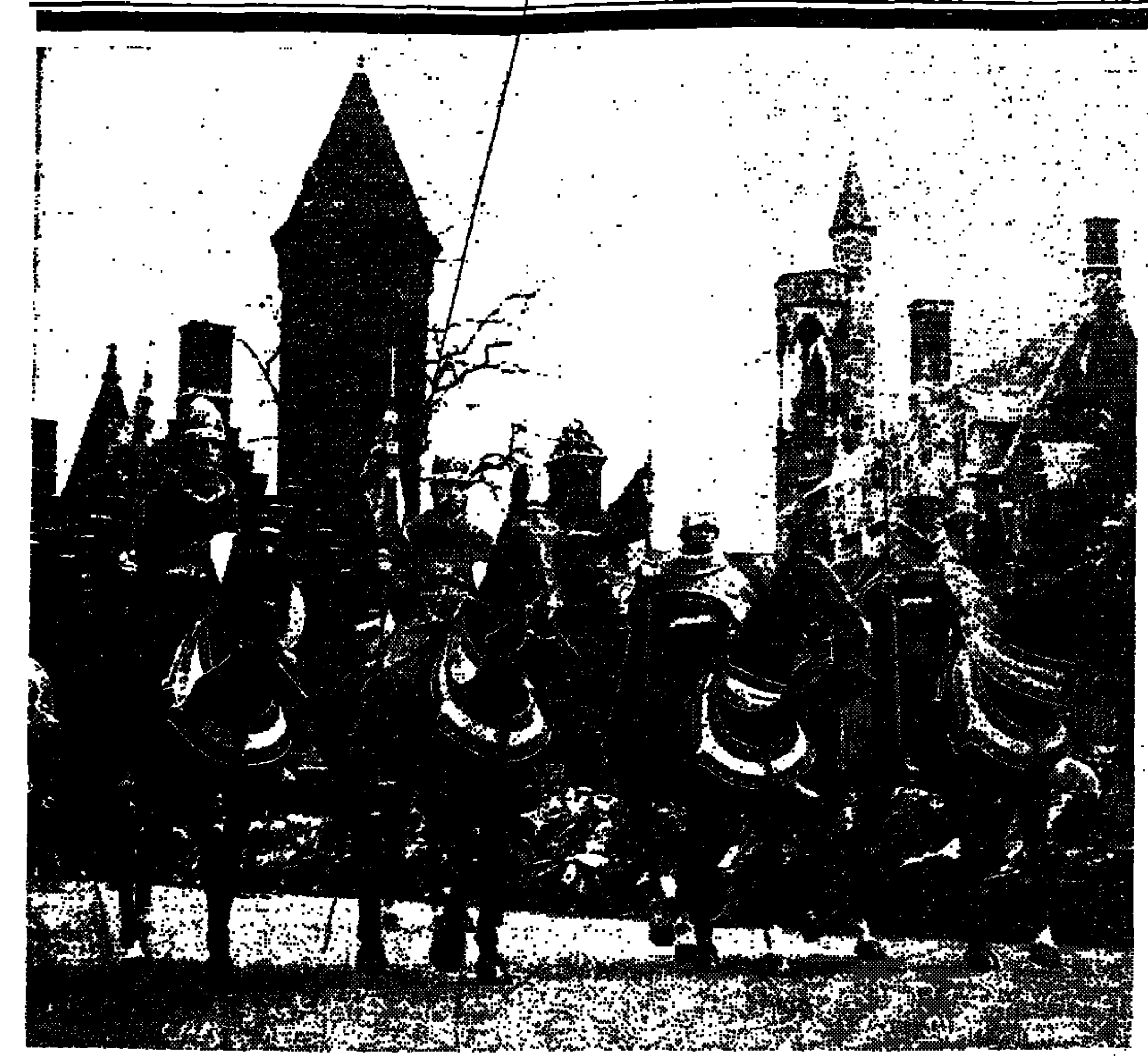
Caution was perhaps understandable since the company is so closely involved in the economy—some estimates have suggested that it owns or controls 30 per cent of Belgian industry. This conservatism was reinforced by its experience in the 1930s, when the economic crisis threatened the existence of the bank. It was the lesson of that time which led to the present corporate structure, where the holding company owns only a proportion of shares in the bank, which was forbidden by law to engage in industrial ownership.

These laws have been modified somewhat, but more important has been a change in the mentality of the group, which succeeded remarkably well in throwing off its backward image, especially in banking, and is now accepted as a respected partner in a number of international groupings, as indeed are the other Belgian banks.

The real test facing all these is how they react to the difficult years which are clearly ahead for the Belgian economy, whose return to full employment and fast growth will clearly take some time. For the banks, like everyone else, that will mean that consolidation is likely to be the watchword of the hour.

The author is Business News Foreign Editor, The Times.

The accountancy department of a large Brussels bank.



Bruges commemorates its medieval past with the procession of the Holy Blood. In 1149 Thierry d'Alsace, Count of Flanders, brought back from Jerusalem a phial believed to contain the blood of Christ which is now kept in the city's Chapel of the Holy Blood.

Year the tourist will discover nature

by Pieter Zwart

This year the theme for Belgium's tourist campaign is the Year of the Countryside—the focus will be on the country's parks, gardens and open spaces. It is also the year of King Baudouin's silver jubilee—a time when Belgians abroad are being encouraged to return for a holiday to join in the celebrations. These will include royal tours of the nine provinces, culminating in festivities in Brussels Heizelsadium in mid-June.

For Belgians abroad *De Grote Weerzien*, or homecoming, is made more attractive by such offers as 25 per cent discount on a railway return ticket from 10 European countries, and 50 per cent discount on train journeys within the country from April to October. There will be special seating arrangements at the celebrations for those who produce a *legitimatiekaart* or identity ticket.

In the past the tourist board has run successful campaigns using themes such as castles (1971-72), abbeys and beguinages (1973), folklore (1974) and cathedrals and town halls (1975). The year of the castles was a particularly interesting year for visitors in that some chateaux were opened to the public which had never been opened before.

Sightseers were attracted not only by the rich historical and architectural appeal of these castles, but also by observing the daily life of those living in them. Next year attention will be devoted to the 400th anniversary of Rubens, while the following year Belgium will be promoted as "jewel of Europe", which will be a blend of previous themes.

Last year, despite inflation, there was an overall increase in tourist traffic to Belgium of some 15 per cent. Mr Jean Gyory, director of press and public relations at the Belgian National Tourist Office, explains the main attractions: Belgium is a most diversified country in a small space. There are many different landscapes and towns within easy reach; there are the art towns such as Bruges, Ghent and Antwerp with their architectural and other monuments. It is one of the best countries in the world for food—some believe even better than France: Belgium is in the middle of Europe.

He says: "We had the reputation of being expensive a few years ago. Now The Netherlands is more expensive than we are." The Organization for European Economic Cooperation and Development has quoted Belgium as a country whose tourism shows a growing trend. Tourism is estimated to be the third most important industry after iron and coal and textiles and chemicals.

Yet last year it still showed a deficit in that Belgians who travelled abroad spent some £537m whereas tourists spent only some £325m in the country. Of the foreign visitors those from neighbouring countries were the most important: the Dutch recorded a provisional 1,800,000 nights in Belgium; the West Germans 1,300,000; and then the British and the French with some 1,100,000 nights or more.

The Belgian coast showed a growing trend with increases of 7 per cent in apartments, 11 per cent in hotels, and 20 per cent in camping sites. The Ardennes also became more popular with more visitors using the camping sites, youth hostels and hotels.

Brussels, the capital city of Belgium, is also the headquarters of the European Economic Community, and as such it has some 158 ambassadors in the city. It is also a businessman's city with facilities at the airport where a businessman's club provides a reception lounge with teleprinters, telephones, copying machines and dictaphones. The city is well equipped with luxury hotels. Some think there ought to be more family second class hotels.

The Government is encouraging their development throughout the country with modernization grants. Some hotels have responded to the present economic situation by providing short package arrangements. A weekend in Brussels, for instance, from 965 Belgian francs (about £12) comprises one night at a Brussels hotel with continental breakfast, a bonus ticket of 200 francs towards the cost of a meal at the hotel, and a tour of the city.

There are more than 10 hotels which offer a range of conference facilities: the Brussels Europa, for example, situated near the Complex Charlemagne and the EEC headquarters, can accommodate 400 delegates for a conference or a banquet in its Europa suite. It has the technical equipment needed for a meeting such as microphone, simultaneous translation in five languages, and office facilities with telephones.

The meeting halls in the city include the Palais des Congrès (which can accommodate up to 1,400). The Abbey of Val Duchesse where one of the earliest Dominican orders in the Low Countries existed, was used by the experts who drafted the treaties for the creation of the EEC and Euratom.

Bruges has been compared with other canal-based cities such as Venice and Amsterdam—but the medieval houses which comprise the city centre have a charm of their own. Mr Rafael Dusauchoit, director of the Bruges Tourist Board, explains the reasons for the popularity of the city with tourists: "I think the main reason is that every tourist is a romantic soul. There he finds something which gives him the sensation of living in the past."

At a rough estimate some 1,500,000 to two million people visit Bruges each year—as part of coach parties, individually as day-trippers from the coast or as hotel guests. Some 80,000 are present on Ascension Day for the Procession of the Holy Blood, a relic which the Count of Flanders brought back from his crusade in the East.

There are strict limits on building to keep the inner city as it was. Hotel towers would ruin the appeal of the city so that only horizontal hotel buildings, such as the Holiday Inn, which has been built in the shell of an old convent, are permitted. Regulations, such as painting the outside of one's house in certain colours and no neon lighting, are imposed to keep the city much as it has always been.

The city pays up to 50 per cent of the outside restoration of houses. Pollution in the canals of the inner city are now part of the past and the water is clean enough to hold an annual swimming competiton.

Since Bruges is on a smaller scale than other cities of its kind, it offers easy walking for sightseers who wish to visit the Groeninge Museum with its collection of paintings, including its Van Eycks; the quiet of the "Princely Beguinage of the Vineyard" founded in 1245; or the church of Our Lady which contains the white marble statue of the Madonna by Michelangelo. There are also boat trips for those wishing to see the city from the canals.

Of the beaches of west Flanders that of Ostend is probably the best known—it has fine sand and safe bathing. The gigantic casino provides entertainment ranging from gambling to cabaret singers. On the Belgian coast the British are second only to the Germans (excluding the Belgians).

The ease of the Channel crossing from Dover or Folkestone by boat or from Southend by air no doubt accounts for its traditional popularity with the British—as do some of the hotel names. To prevent overcrowding during high season on the coast and elsewhere the authorities are debating a plan to stagger school holidays by dividing Belgium into two zones, north and south. The northern part would take its holidays from June 15 to August 14, while the southern part would take them from July 15 to September 15.

Property market stays buoyant

by Michael Hanson

Resisting every attempt to hamper it, the property market in Brussels remains remarkably buoyant, although there is about as much unlet office space as there is in central London. According to Richard Ellis, one of the leading British firms of agents and surveyors who operate in Brussels, there is about 320,000 sq metres of new offices on the market in and around Brussels.

Restrictions on new development have meant that few new buildings have been started in the past two years, but the completion of those schemes already in the pipeline means that another 225,000 sq metres of space is likely to come on to the market this year, including one of the most dominant additions to the skyline, the 32-storey Tour Astro, which is located on the inner ring road at the junction of avenue de l'Astronomie.

Tour Astro is a joint development by London Overseas International and Barclays Bank Trust Company for the Grasshopper Property Unit Trust, a fund established in 1968 to enable pension funds and charities to invest in property. The building, due for completion later this year, will have 38,000 sq metres of air conditioned offices above shops and a banking hall. Letting agents will be the Brussels office of Jones Lang Wootton.

The Tour Astro is not far from the Tour Madou, a 33-storey office block on the Avenue des Arts, which was bought in 1972 for more than £7.5m by the Abbey Property Bond Fund, which has 15 per cent of its £168m portfolio invested in overseas property, its purchase of the Tour Madou having been the first overseas purchase by a British property bond fund.

Confounding the critics

Jones Lang Wootton has been involved in the Brussels property boom since the beginning, having opened its local office in 1965. It was soon letting more than 100,000 sq metres of offices each year, reaching a peak of 130,875 sq metres in 1974 when the demand for new offices reached unprecedented levels.

It is a measure of how demand has slipped since then that last year it let only 83,081 sq metres but it is the first to point out that the performance of the market has consistently confounded the critics, for people have been forecasting a glut of offices since the property boom began more than 10 years ago.

There is no doubt that, if the Brussels property market had to rely on the demand of local companies, it would not be the city it is. What has changed the face of Brussels more than the ravages of war have been the peacetime demands of international organizations, notably the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and then the European Economic Community, closely followed by international companies preferring Brussels rather than Paris as their European headquarters.

The EEC Commission is still interested in more offices, but it wants them in the immediate vicinity of its present headquarters, although there are more than enough for it to choose from in the Quartier Leopold generally, including the 38.000 sq. metres development by London and Leeds Investments, the property subsidiary of Ladbrokes.

In an attempt to prevent overdevelopment, the Government introduced credit restrictions on August 5, 1974, limiting mortgage finance for commercial development to 60 per cent of open-market value. By royal decree of September 13, 1974, the start of all development projects costing more than 50m Belgian francs was delayed for a year. The time taken to obtain a decision on a planning application also increased to about a year, and is still the norm, even though the mortgage and building restrictions were lifted on May 20, 1975.

Now further restrictions on property are proposed: this time a freeze on commercial rents, which is due to take effect on April 1 and to last until the end of the year. For this brief period commercial rents will be held at their level on November 1, 1975. At the moment the threat of a freeze is not having much effect on the market, because rents have been falling anyway.

In the prime office location of the Avenue des Arts and the Boulevard du Regent, where rents for new air-conditioned offices reached 4,000 francs at their peak, they are now down to between 3,250 francs and 3,500 francs, according to Richard Ellis, while in the Quartier Louise they are down from a peak of 3,000 francs to perhaps 2,500 francs. One local agent, Jacques de Duve, puts the general fall in rents even higher, at 25 to 30 per cent down from their peak.

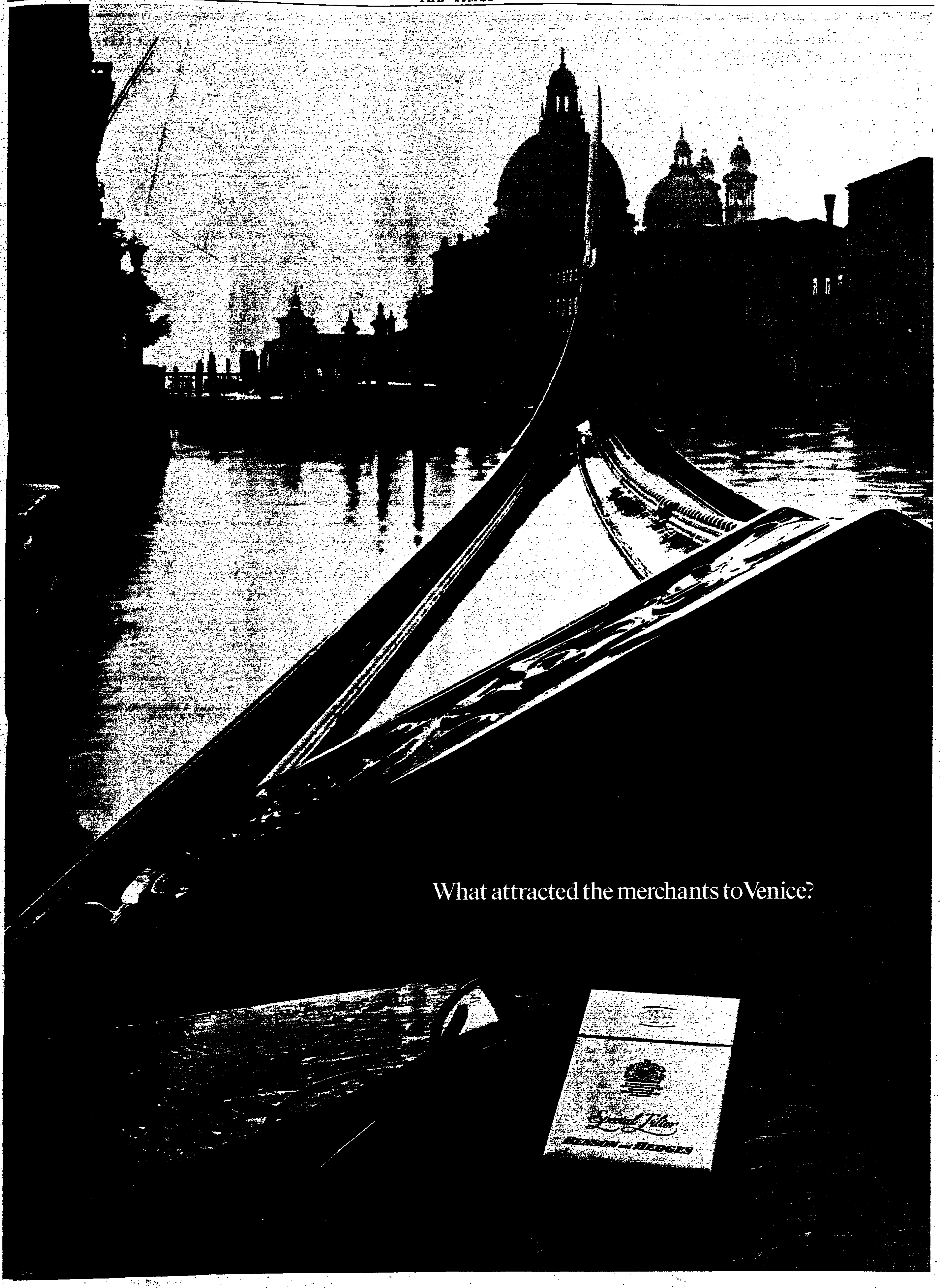
If the proposed freeze on commercial rents were to last longer than nine months, it could start to have serious effects on the investment market, as it did in Britain, although there are fewer reversionary properties because most buildings are let on three-year leases with annual indexation of rents and the index is ahead of market rental values. When the rent freeze was first proposed, it made institutional investors cautious, but there is such a dearth of good investment situations that their interest soon recovered.

On the most pessimistic estimates of the market Brussels is going to have an over-supply of offices until 1978 at least. On what must be regarded as the most optimistic forecast Jones Lang Wootton predicts that the present supply of accommodation could be exhausted by next year, if the letting market continues to improve. It is pinning its hopes on renewed interest from foreign banks and insurance companies, which have shown little interest for the past 18 months.

The true outcome is likely to lie somewhere in between, for if the letting market does improve, those developers who have put projects into cold storage may bring them out again. In this respect it is significant that planning permission has just been obtained for a new office development on the avenue des Arts by the Heron Corporation, jointly with Barclays International. The existing buildings on the site have already been demolished and a contract has been signed for the construction of the new building. The reason for such optimism is that 30 per cent of the space has already been prelet through Richard Ellis.

Other British developers who still have unlet office buildings on their hands would welcome a revival in the letting market and probably none more so than Town and Commercial Properties, which has a block of 23,500 sq metres on the avenue Louise, completed at a cost of £8m, which it would not only like to let but to sell, to reduce its gearing.

Nor is it only the office market that needs to improve but also the market for shops away from the traditional locations of avenue de la Toison d'Or and rue Neuve, although lettings in the Manhatten Centre have been some comfort to MEPC, which still has more unlet offices in the development than it would like.


What attracted the merchants to Venice?
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BENSON & HEDGES

Facing the challenge of man and his habitat

About 2,000 delegates will gather in Vancouver in two months' time for what purports to be the largest United Nations meeting ever staged. Its subject is Human Settlements—"Habitat" for short—and it is seen as directly complementing the 1972 environment conference in Stockholm. There the question was how man could best come to terms with his natural surroundings; this time it is what sort of surroundings he can and should try to create for himself.

The official British contribution to the debate is published today. It consists of a fat booklet on planning, a short film and two audio-visual presentations. Inevitably, perhaps, the emphasis is on achievement rather than the many failures. Other countries will, no doubt, present an even more glowing and more distorted picture; few, if any, will be able to bring themselves to depict candidly the squalor and deprivation that deface every country and almost every major city in the world.

Since the history of urban settlement in the last two centuries has concerned mainly error and despair, it must be asked whether a conference of this sort can produce any useful results. European cities, it is said, are about to repeat the disasters of the United States, and the Third World is plunging headlong into all the mistakes made by Europe, with little or no compensating economic growth.

Mushrooming shanty towns

A single generation from now, there are expected to be some 3,500 cities with a population of over 1,000,000, compared with fewer than 300 at present. Except perhaps in a few countries like Brazil, Venezuela and Iran, such cities will not be sustained by rapid industrialization, and the mushrooming shanty towns will merely reflect the appalling fact that life in the rural areas is even worse. Since the western world is preoccupied with its own problems of urban decay, who in Vancouver is going to be able to teach what and to whom?

Nobody and nothing, appears to be the view of the Chinese, who have so far declined to take any part. Many non-government environmental groups consider that they should be more widely represented on official delegations, and have decided to hold an alternative "forum" at the same time as the conference, which they regard as no more *than a public relations exercise*.

They are perhaps being unfair. For instance, Mr Gordon Oakes, an under-secretary at the Department of the Environment, who will effectively lead the British delegation (Mr Crosland is going only for the opening session), is among the most likeable and least pretentious of politicians, and has lucid and forthright views on the subject.

"I do not intend to go to Vancouver as merely the mouthpiece of the British Government, still less of the professional planners", he says. "It is also essential to avoid the rift that occurred in Stockholm between the have and have-not nations, when the have-nots claimed that *many of* the suggestions were impracticable because they just could not afford them."

Overcrowding is, he concedes, one of the biggest evils and a main cause of conflict and tension. "If you put too many animals in a confined place, they instinctively start to fight each other. Human beings are the same."

But it is not necessarily the biggest problem, he argues. Many of our economic and social difficulties can be directly traced to bad physical planning. Huge amounts of time and energy are squandered on needlessly long journeys to work. *People* are forced to move away from friends and familiar surroundings, and old people lose regular contact with their grown-up children. Bleak, ugly housing breeds the despair that leads to violence and vandalism on a scale that the old, overcrowded slums seldom kindled.

Mr Oakes is not convinced that Britain's most touted planning achievement, the new towns, can provide much of a lesson for other countries. They tend, he says, to absorb the young, skilled and relatively prosperous, leaving no place for the old and the poor.

He admits that, from Britain's point of view, the most useful exchange of views will be with other developed countries. Our predictions until now have all been based on the assumption of continued economic and population growth, whereas for the first time the graphs are indicating a slowing down, if not a standstill. Are we building the right sort of houses? Should we not consider those which could at a future date be easily converted into flats, to accommodate smaller families?

He is particularly anxious to discuss the plight of American cities and how, for instance, the still valuable and important heart of New York might be revitalized. West Germany has given a lead in rejecting traditional zoning practices and building new factories and housing side by side, so that people can live close to their work. But to suggest that we have no problems in common with the Third World would be "selfish". What about traffic congestion in Lagos, for example?

Mr Oakes expects traffic to be one of the main subjects at the conference. Almost every country is having difficulty in financing public transport, particularly railways. The growth in car ownership may well be a direct result of people's desire to escape from an increasingly wretched urban environment. The ugliness of many towns in northern England is all too often excused by the observation that "there is lovely country close at hand".

Simply not a talking shop

Mr Oakes is not alone in his optimism. Professor Duccio Turin, Habitat's secretary general, is determined that the conference should not be merely a "talking shop", let alone a propaganda exercise. He is seeking firm government commitments, and is determined that any final resolution should at least acknowledge that the key to the proper planning of human settlements is public control over the use—as opposed to public ownership—of all land.

"The great advantage of Habitat is that afterwards we shall all be speaking the same language", said Dr Diego Arria, the Governor of Caracas. "The time for diplomacy and delicacy has ended".

John Young
Planning Reporter

Mr Foot: soothing words on the irrational fears over his leadership chances

Even though today's second ballot results are likely to confirm the strength of Mr Michael Foot's support in the Labour leadership stakes, many doubts about his qualifications persist. He has only two years ministerial experience, he would divide the Labour Party, lose all its moderate voters to other parties, cause a flight from sterling.

Mr Foot, who is 62, believes some of these fears are irrational, and had some soothing words for the doubters in an interview at his office in the Department of Employment yesterday.

Harold Wilson, he pointed out, had been in only two jobs before he became Prime Minister in 1964: Under Secretary at the Ministry of Works, then President of the Board of Trade, and had had only two years Cabinet experience. "There is also quite a lot of politics to be learnt on the backbenches of the House of Commons, though that may be a peculiar view to propagate, including one thing which it would be foolish to forget: that the House of Commons is the place to which ministers are answerable".

He believed the main reason why the present incomes policy had a better chance of working than any previous one was that it had been done through Parliament, largely on his own insistence, where he had faced some formidable critics from the *Tribune Group*, as well as Conservative Front Bench accusations that it was an unworkable policy and a constitutional monstrosity. "But we did get it through, and on the whole it has worked.

"Parliament is not a fine old monument to which you pay obeisance occasionally. It's the instrument to be used to make things work."

Mr Foot *recalled that* Mr Wilson had also been thought too much a man of the left to lead a united Labour Party, as indeed had Mr Attlee. Cripps and Bevan were also thought to be excessively of the left to be effective, and had had to wait for death to be canonized. "I'm trying to get in earlier."

As for the idea that he would hand over a large slab of Labour votes to Mrs Thatcher or the Liberals, Mr Foot said unhesitatingly: "I don't believe politics is a question of finding the middle ground and pretending you feel happier there. I think politics is a question of trying to change the political atmosphere, of changing the direction in which things are going.

"The politician who looks to see what is the present political atmosphere and says he will accommodate to it, never *shifts* anything. Maybe he won't shift public opinion in his favour either. I'm not saying there are any candidates in the present election to whom that would apply", he said, chuckling.

Mr Foot admitted, without any visible regret, that he did not know any gnomes, of Zurich or elsewhere. But as far as sterling was concerned, he said with the utmost gravity: "I am absolutely convinced of the necessity for us to beat inflation. If we do not, I don't believe the Labour Government will survive. No gnome who is interested in this proposition should have any doubts about my desire to beat it, for every reason."

There has been some speculation that if, as is expected, Mr Foot is beaten on the third ballot by Mr Callaghan, he would like to move from the Department of Employment. This is not so: "On the whole I'm certain my inclination is to stay on in this job", he said. "It depends partly on what happens generally. But I want to stay here *to see the* unemployment figures coming down in a big way." Despite last week's small drop, he thought it would be some time before the real turning point came.

He thought a big drop would depend partly on general economic policy, but partly on developing altogether new policies about the labour market over the next four or five years. Bringing the figures down would be the number one job in the Government and this would depend partly on the Department of Employment. "I don't believe anyone can ask for a more important job than that", he said.


Mr Foot: import controls are not any sort of a cure-all.

He does not regard import controls—advocated by the TUC—as any sort of a cure-all. He thinks the "whole argument about them" needs to be perpetually considered by any government.

Mr Foot makes no bones about being on the left of the Labour Party, and is delighted that he and Mr Benn have attracted so much support in the present contest. He believes the left has been getting *stronger both* in the party and in the trade unions since 1970, and sees this as the fruit of economic wisdom rather than of economic crisis. He believes the way Mr Benn is misrepresented by newspapers is as much of an absurdity as the way Bevan was portrayed as a vulgar braggart. They forget, he said, but MPs do not, Mr Benn's skill as a *debater, his* sense of humour, his gift for satiric comment.

He is not worried by his own poor rating with the public. Opinion polls, he believes, should carry a government warning not to take them seriously. But he does find two particular accusations mildly irritating: that he has helped foster some kind of corporate state, and that he is "Jack Jones's man in the Cabinet".

The first idea shows a misunderstanding of the incomes policy, he says. The Department of Employment has the task of interpreting the policy, and the minister is responsible to Parliament. This is very different from a pay board system, or enforcing a pact made between the TUC and CBI. "*Everything we have done has* had to be subject to Parliament, even the much denounced dock labour scheme. I want more and more people to look to Parliament as a place that gives *intelligent* decisions.

"Under the previous brilliant arrangements for dealing with the docks, the question of what should be classified as dock work was to be settled, occasionally, by *legal decisions in* the House of Lords." No Alice in Wonderland *system* could be more fatuous, he said.

He would approach judgment day with high hopes if accused of nothing worse than being Mr Jones's front man. But he did not think the CBI would regard all his efforts a disservice: assisting towards the end of the overtime ban in the engineering industry, for exam- *or helping towards a consi-* able reduction in the num- of labour disputes.

The Labour Party, howe- was quite openly supported trade unions in elections, and did not think it would be ei- creditable or calculated to tain democracy if they w- thrown out of the door o- the election was over. "T- does not mean we are dict- to, or don't have any argume- with them about how best go about it, or that there no arguments between the ferent trade unions."

Mr Foot also happily rejec- the "illiterate" idea that was anti-European as well anti-EEC. "I have always s- scribed to the doctrine *civilized people have two co-* tries: their own, and Franc- While accepting the refer- dum result, he still thi- Britain could have got a m- congenial deal through an as- ciation agreement, giving tr- benefits without a struct- "not designed for our p- poses".

He also stresses that he *never* been a *pacifist,* would like to see the w- drawal of troops from east Europe, though this would h- to be done by withdrawals both sides. He regrets that Rapacki plan for a nuclear-f- zone in Europe was not gi- a bigger response by Brit- The supreme task of stopp- a nuclear catastrophe depe- partly on maintaining int- gent diplomatic relations w- the Russians and others. "T- idea of détente being a d- word is the silliest proposit- I ever heard", he said, ev- ing a pleasing image of h- self in dialogue with Presid- Ford, who recently dropped word from his vocabulary.

Roger Bertho

Bernard Levin

How one man fell into the machinery of South African justice

One of that admirable band of South Africans who live in South Africa *and resist evil for righteousness' sake* once sat on my sofa and told me that he could supply me with sufficient cases of injustice from that country to enable me to fill a column every day for 50 years. That was some time ago, and I have long since been compelled to recognize that he was telling the literal truth.

One more of them has just come my way; what has happened to this recent victim of South African tyranny is by no means as bad as what many others have suffered, but it is significant in a context wider than the individual concerned, for it helps to give the lie to the assertion, being assiduously put about by the South African propaganda machine and by apologists for that country, that although the fundamental principles on which Nationalist rule is based will change only very gradually, what is called "petty apartheid", and means the trivial and pointless indignities to which the non-white peoples of South Africa are subjected, is being rapidly abandoned. One who must have a rather realistic opinion of how much truth there is in that claim is Mr Nyameko Barney Pityana, and this is his story.

Mr Pityana is 30; he is married, with one daughter, and has a widowed mother. He is articled to a firm of attorneys, but is what is called by his Anglican Church a "self-supporting ordinand"—that is, one who is *studying* for the ministry and maintaining himself by working at his own trade until he is ordained. He was first marked down by South Africa when he was in his final year at Fort Hare University (the white-run institution for blacks); there was a student strike, aimed in the words of my informant (who is *not* Mr Pityana himself or any member of his family) at "forcing the new rector to treat them as human beings", and Mr Pityana was expelled for alleged complicity in it. (The action was non-violent.) He had been a founder-member of the South *African Students' Organization* and its secretary-general (a paid, full-time post) from 1970 to February, 1973; he had previously been president of the Anglican Students' Federation.

For his activities in black student affairs Mr Pityana was "banned" in February, 1973. He is under house arrest at his home in Port Elizabeth, from 6 pm to 6 am every weekday and at weekends from 1 pm on Saturday until 6 am on Monday, and throughout all public holidays. He is allowed no visitors except one clergyman and one specified relative, and may not meet more than one person during the hours he is allowed to be out of his home; as with other banned persons, nothing he says may be quoted in any form of publication.

In October, 1974, Mr Pityana was arrested under the Terrorism Act, taken to a prison in Pretoria and kept in solitary confinement for more than six months. He was tortured, and also told that if he did not cooperate satisfactorily his wife would be detained as well and also "interrogated". He resisted, and was eventually released; no charge of any kind was brought against him, nor, of course, was any apology or compensation offered him. On being released from prison, he was returned to his house arrest, and there then began a campaign of harassment against him that is described by one whose work brings him detailed and direct knowledge of such cases as worse than any ever encountered by any other banned person. Mr Pityana was repeatedly visited by police, repeatedly threatened, repeatedly taken in, without warning, for questioning. His chief tormentor was one Lieute*nant Ferreira of the Security Police* (it is not clear how far this man was acting on his own, and how far as part of a systematic campaign to break Mr Pityana); to give an example of the depths to which official South Africa can *sink*, I offer the fact that on the occasion of the *enthronement* of the new Bishop of Port Elizabeth, Mr Pityana had obtained the necessary special permission to travel to the ceremony, but before setting out was seized by the police for further interrogation, and kept in prison throughout the entire weekend of the bishop's installation.

At the end of January, 1974, his mother asked Mr Pityana if he would take to live with him two children—his *half-brother* and *his cousin*—because she, with whom they had been living, felt that she could not control them sufficiently or keep them attending to their studies (they were both at school); in any case, he had earlier agreed with his mother that he would eventually take over the supervision of their education. He agreed to take the children; when, earlier, he had still been living *with his mother*, the children had of course been living there, too, and the change in the children's environment would therefore have been relatively undisturbing for them. Now in South Africa (as in the Soviet Union—how many and how vile are the parallels between these two tyrannies!), there is no freedom of movement for the inhabitants; citizens may not live where they choose. I stress that this does not mean simply that blacks may not freely live in areas designated for whites, but that even within black areas blacks may not change their address without permission. Mr Pityana, possibly thinking that, since at one time all four members of his family (he, his mother and the boy and girl) had all been registered to live in one house, any redistribution of the same four people between two houses could hardly be objected to, *and also* because it is in any case common practice for children not to be registered as separate residents, did not apply for formal authorization for the children to live with him; additionally, he thought that they might at some stage go back to live with his mother.

In July, 1975, Mr Pityana was arrested and charged with contravening his banning order by receiving visitors at his home, the "visitors" being the children, his dependants, who were living with him. (By having unregistered children living with him he was technically committing an offence, but of a very trivial kind, and one which very rarely results in prosecution at all, particularly when it concerns children; but for a banned person to receive *visitors* is a very serious crime.) Just before *the arrest*, Lieutenant Ferreira had told him that, since the children were not registered to live at Mr Pityana's home, they ought not to be there: but Mr Pityana told him that the question of registration was nothing to do with the Security Police, but was one for the Township Superintendent. But, what is far more significant, Ferreira, sometimes accompanied by other Security Police officers, had visited the house and seen the children on numerous earlier occasions, during the course of the persistent persecution; on none of these occasions was any reference made to the children not being permitted there, even on the grounds that they were not registered.

Mr Pityana's trial was a farce notable even by South Africa's standards; there is one *prolonged* passage of a positively surrealist nature, in which it gradually becomes clear that, although the case concerns an alleged breach of a banning order, the magistrate trying it did not even know that banning involves house arrest. He kept blundering about (". . . I don't seem to follow this now . . . You know, I don't seem to follow this at all . . . this is absolutely beyond me, Mr Prosecutor . . ."), unable to understand why Mr Pityana kept saying *that* he couldn't *do* anything outside his own home after 6 pm. (Suddenly, a great light dawned: "I see. Well, now it rings a bell . . . Now I've got it." It's ev- funnier, I may say, if you read aloud in a van der Merwe accent.)

Another item all too characteris- of police states transpired at t- trial; when, shortly before be- arrested for the alleged breach o- banning order, Mr Pityana w- warned that the children were n- registered to live with him, a c- stable (not from the Security Polic- came and took him to the Townsh- Superintendent to clear up the mat- of the children's registration. He w- *there shown a copy of his restricti-* order, which said nothing about *h- being forbidden to have lodgers* his home. When the restriction ord- became Exhibit B at his trial, ho- ever, it had somehow acquired ju- such an endorsement.

There are other striking deta- dotted about this vignette of Sou- African justice: when the childr- were brought into court to be iden- fied, for instance, Mr Pityana sto- weeping in the witness box, at whi- his wife, who was in the public ga- lery, in turn became so distress- that she had to leave the court. A- the magistrate said was: "For t- record, what are their names, M- Interpreter?"

Mr Pityana was found guilty, course, and sentenced to *six month-* imprisonment. The appeal is expect- to be heard shortly, the case itse- *having been heard in September ar-* October of last year. (In Britain ju- tice moves slowly; in South Afric- it seems, it is injustice that dawdles. The most likely outcome, accordi- to my sources, is that the appeal w- be dismissed but that the senten- may be reduced. In any event, wh- he comes out of prison, or if th- conviction is quashed, he will go bac- to his life of house arrest; no visitor- no public mention of anything h- may say, and—now—without the chi- dren to cheer his desolate life. An- also, no doubt, with renewed visi- from Lieutenant Ferreira.

The Times Diary

Good food is a matter of taste

The publication of the Michelin Guide to Britain yesterday brought singular satisfaction to Michael Harris, of the Bell at Aston Clinton. His inn was struck out of the home-grown *Good Food Guide* last month after having been continuously listed there for almost a quarter of a century. That bitter degradation is now assuaged by the award of a star for "consistently high standard of cuisine" in Michelin. The Bell is the only establishment in England and Wales to have been pro*moted to the ranks of the* Michelin star-holders *this* year.

Michelin also brings good news for Robert Carrier. His Islington restaurant, knocked out of the *Good Food Guide* last month, keeps its star in Michelin, as does his country seat, Hintlesham Hall. The Roux brothers get a consolation prize, too. Their Le Poulbot in the City, expelled from the latest *Good Food Guide*, is still reckoned to merit a star by the Michelin men. Eight of the 30 restaurants to which Michelin gives stars do not get a mention in the *Good Food Guide*.

However, all Michelin's top 30 make it into the Egon Ronay Guide, but with varying marks of distinction. The accompanying table compares how a number of the top-rated places fare in the various guides. Cut it out and keep it until you have saved up enough to visit one of them.

	Ronay	Good Food	AA	Michelin
Connaught Hotel	***	**	***	**
Le Coq d'Or	*	?	***	In
Le Gavroche	**	**	***	**
Mirabelle	*	Out	***	In
Capital Hotel	*	**	*	**
Le Poulbot	**	Out	**	**
Carrier's	*	Out	*	**
Box Tree, Ilkley	***	**	***	**
Inverlochy Castle	***	Out	Out	In
Thornbury Castle	**	**	***	**
Sharrow Bay, Ullswater	*	**	**	In
Gravetye Manor, E. Grinstead	*	**	*	In
Bell, Aston Clinton	In	Out	*	**
Hintlesham Hall	*	In	**	**

(The Michelin and Good Food Guides have only one category of starred restaurant, indicated by two stars in this table. The stars for the other two guides correspond to their own classifications. In the case of the Coq d'Or, the Good Food Guide lists it tentatively, asking for further reports.)

Bouncing out

Harold Wilson was in bouncing form when he delivered one of his last speeches as Prime Minister yesterday, to a Jewish *lunchtime gathering at the Dorchester*. His good humour was hardly surprising, considering the lavish praise heaped upon him by his host Gideon Rafael, the Israel ambassador, who noted Wilson's long-standing *friendship towards Israel and* his efforts on behalf of Soviet Jews.

As though preparing for life on a pension, Wilson arrived wearing a slightly battered grey suit, fired his pipe with one of those cheap throwaway gas lighters, and drank half a bottle of light ale. He shook hands with Lady Stone (the wife of his doctor) who had helped *organize the function to raise* funds for Tel Aviv University. At this point reporters were banished to a downstairs room where they were given the same menu (fresh salmon), but were unable to enjoy the strains of the Geraldo Golden Strings fiddling away upstairs.

Later, with reporters back on duty, Rafael wished the Prime *Minister luck in his new role* as the Infant Elder Statesman. The ambassador was wearing the exclusive tie of the Chequers Club, given to him by Wilson two weeks ago. The club, said Rafael, had been re*ferred to in The Times* as the most distinguished in Britain, and could not resist adding: "I am happy that this friendly occasion has brought about an unusual concurrence of opinion between *The Times* and the Prime Minister."

The jovial Wilson congratulated the organizers of the lunch on their timing and foresight—better than the press, he *said, who got it wrong. Reports* that he was retiring were also wrong: he was merely being redeployed. But he revealed that he had forgiven the press all their sins sufficiently to agree to open the new *Daily Express* building in Fleet Street.

Mugging

Rehearsals for the midnight comedy galas, in aid of Amnesty International, at Her Majesty's Theatre later this week have been necessarily sketchy. The cast are the Oxbridge revue actors who have risen to stardom since the 1950s—with the exception of Dudley Moore, *stranded by work* permit regulations in America.

Moore's three fellow performers from *Beyond the Fringe* arranged to rehearse on Sunday night with his deputy, Terry Jones from *Monty Python's Flying Circus*, at Jonathan Miller's home in Primrose Hill. The confusion rivalled that they aimed to produce *on* stage.

A television crew directed by *Roger Graef were in attendance* to record the events for posterity. Graef spent his time hiding in alcoves and behind bookshelves and chairs to keep out of the camera's view. One of his aides occupied the stairs.

"My difficulty", said Miller, clattering noisily to the basement where a designer was waiting to discuss the sets for a new opera production, "is that I am *trying to do three things* at once. What we want (to the designer) is nice Roman neo-classical hell."

Upstairs Alan Bennett, who lives just across the street, arrived and slumped into a sofa. Miller returned at the run to telephone Peter Cook. He spoke to Cook's answering machine. "I rang to see if you got my message. Well, I suppose you didn't."

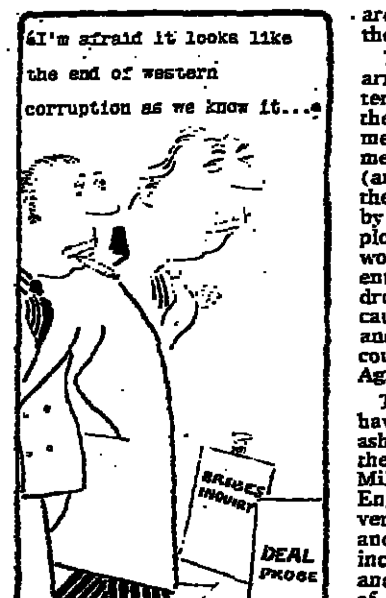
The chosen sketch was the cod Shakespeare from *Beyond the Fringe*.

"How should this line go?" asked Jones where he was to say: "Aye prosper."

"Well you want a sense of innuendo," said Miller. "Aim for sort of, well you know, Empsonian layers of complexity."

"Oh yes", said Jones gulping.

"Of course, Dudley used to mug a lot," said Bennett. "You can always mug."



Worse still

P. H. Simpligessverk, my economics correspondent, discusses the latest prediction of Britain's *economic collapse*:

Regular readers of my analyses will not be surprised at the latest review by the so-called "Cambridge economists" and its dire findings. (Indeed, if I have any regular readers, it is probable that they are incapable of being surprised by anything.) Briefly, the sages conclude that, unless things improve, they are likely to get a great deal worse. A third possibility—that things will remain very much as they are—is regarded as unlikely though it is not ruled out.

They say that under "present arrangements" (a technical term meaning arrangements as they are at present) unemployment is likely to increase geometrically. Extrapolation (another technical term) from the present figures show that by 1984 the number of unemployed will exceed the available work force, and all that this entails. They dismiss the recent drop in unemployment as being caused by "seasonal factors" and forecast that such factors could increase as the new Ice Age approaches.

The Cambridge "economists" have always and quite unashamedly shared the view of the Keynesians (followers of Milton Keynes, professor of English poetry at the Open University) that the wage-cost push and high unemployment are not incompatible with a recession and that any drop in the pool of unemployed is likely to create ripples which will spread far beyond the immediate. They also share the Keynesians' penchant for writing extremely long sentences.

For an expert comment I went to visit Dr Bernard Chalfont, Solzhenitsyn Professor of Cataclysm at the University of Buckingham. When I arrived he *was busy building the* concrete defensive bunker on Hampstead Heath which has outraged local environmentalists.

"The real danger", he said, puffing heavily, "is of creeping complacency. If only we could shake off this complacency, everything would be wonderful and we would have nothing to *worry about at all*." *Then the* prophet went back to his digging.

PHS

TIMES PAST THE TIMES
New Printing House Square, London, WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE DEFICIT SHOULD BE CUT

Short-term economic forecasting is not the central purpose of Monday's arresting *Economic Policy Review* prepared by the Cambridge University Department of Applied Economics. Its main message is that, whether we get fast or slow growth in the next few years, the British economy will be confronted with intolerable pressures, unless the commitment to international free trade is abandoned by the United Kingdom and import controls imposed.

Their view is that if we get fast enough growth to reduce unemployment then the balance of payments will plunge into an unfinancable deficit over the years to 1980. If, on the other hand, growth is sufficiently restrained to protect the balance of payments, then unemployment will rise above one and a half million and inflation will be powerfully reinforced by the gap between the probable rise in money wages and the actual increase in output.

It is increasingly probable that the economic recovery in all industrial countries (and in the United Kingdom in particular) will be less rapid and less strong than most people now seem to expect. The initial phase of upswing associated with restocking after a recession of unusual length and severity, may be sharp enough to give the impression of a general economic recovery in line with the experience of other past business cycles. The continuing sense of business uncertainty, primarily associated with continuing high levels of inflation will, however, almost certainly play its part in ensuring that an investment boom is not added to the initial recovery itself. Further, the tighter monetary conditions that are likely to be maintained by most monetary authorities in response to price inflation itself, will keep the upswing in check. Finally, the overall economic policies in Japan and western Europe will not even be aiming at the levels of real growth which were the targets of previous cycles.

These indications that the top of the next business peak may well be lower than the last may be taken by some as evidence that the Chancellor is free in his forthcoming budget to stimulate the economy by a significant amount. Such a conclusion would be damaging and dangerous. First, the initial part of the upswing may be surprisingly sharp and is already well under way, as restocking takes place. It would be wrong to increase the inflationary pressures of bottlenecks in the short term. Secondly, however, and more importantly, we share the Cambridge view that, even if it is less in real terms than last time, the expansion of the economy already in train will be stronger than the economy in the longer term can sustain in its present condition.

We subscribe to the strategic analysis that the British economy contains fundamental weaknesses, almost contradictions, which mean that there is no "just right", or even compromise, rate of expansion that will reconcile the conflicting objectives of high employment, stable prices and external balance.

We disagree, however, with the Cambridge emphasis that the basic defect is the deep-seated weakness of Britain's external trade performance at any sustainable rate of exchange. The problem would be just as great, if Britain were a "closed economy" with no external trade at all. The crux of the matter is that collective bargaining, however restrained by incomes policies from time to time, can only be reconciled with high employment at the price of progressively accelerating inflation. This system is demonstrably explosive and therefore unstable.

There are, indeed, already signs that the situation is getting worse rather than better. The strength of the expansion already in the pipeline is beginning to manifest itself in output, spending and employment statistics. When the prospective budget deficit, the probable turn-round in personal savings as consumer confidence begins to revive and the almost inevitable growth of the money supply, when credit demand picks up, are added to this, the chances are that another classic public and private consumption boom will be under way by this time next year. Even if the spontaneous expansion were to falter, the pressures to sustain it by government action, lest unemployment should resume its upward path, will be hard for any administration to resist.

The Cambridge group conclude that, while the Chancellor should probably increase taxation in the budget, in order to restrain consumer demand at home, he should also control manufactured imports generally in order to stimulate British output. We conclude that the first priority is to prevent at all costs any strong resumed expansion of the money supply and that, if this is not to lead to an abrupt increase in long-term interest rates, the budget deficit must be cut substantially below the £10-£12,000m now in prospect for 1976-77. This will of course mean that, by the standards of previous economic cycles, the recession will be longer and the recovery weaker than it would otherwise be. But it would also mean that, at last, the British economy was pointed in the direction of that long-term stability, without which no employment and prosperity can be for long sustained.

THE US AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNISTS

The word is being passed around Washington that the presence of communist ministers in Western governments would portend the end of Nato. That this is not right does not diminish the fact that the United States is faced with a difficult dilemma as it sees communists advancing to within sight of cabinet seats in Italy and possibly even in France.

If the United States says that the advance is inevitable and acceptable it strengthens the communists and further demoralizes the non-communists, especially the Christian Democrats of Italy. This is the main reason why it has not talked with the Italian communists or authorized the special waiver that would be necessary to grant them visas to the United States. But if it huffs and puffs and issues dire warnings it provokes nationalist resentment and ensures that the situation will be even more difficult if the communists do acquire a share of power.

The best way out of this dilemma is to try to stick to the cool truth rather than strike tactical postures. Obviously it is undesirable that communists should enter west European governments in Italy, France or anywhere else. Obviously, too, it is not inevitable that they will, and nothing should be done to make it more likely. But the possibility opens up a very mixed bag of implications and options which need not lead uncontrollably to disaster.

Of course there would be severe difficulties. American public opinion would feel that an alliance set up against communist expansion had been infiltrated by the enemy and was therefore not worth defending. The issue could also enter the West German election campaign, with the Christian Democrat raising the spectre of communism creeping up from the south and the Social Democrats replying that the trouble originates with the failures of Italian Christian Democrats and the absence of an effective social democratic party as a barrier against the extreme left. Nato would have to look to its security procedures and there would have to be new contingency plans.

The damage would, however, be more limited if it were not exaggerated in advance. The Italian communists are acutely aware of the risk of provoking a right-wing reaction, which is one reason why they seek a coalition with the Christian Democrats and continuing membership of Nato. They are also deeply at odds with Moscow, so that many of them would regard Nato as necessary protection against Russian imperialism. They could also be a valuable influence in sustaining Yugoslav independence, which they regard as necessary to their own independence. Moscow itself is worried by the influence which heretical Italian communism has in eastern Europe.

If, therefore, the problem is seen in political more than military terms, and with all its interacting implications and openings for influence by the European Community, it offers far more opportunities for judicious management than if presented as a stark and unavoidable threat leading straight to the abyss. Dr Kissinger needs to beware of self-fulfilling prophecies. He is in danger of building up a confrontation that will increase the dangers he seeks to avert.

Use of roads and railways

From Professor L. Fishman

Sir, Professor Buchanan again reminds us (March 20) that we must come to terms with the motor vehicle. But what are the terms? Are we to continue the process of the past 60 years, in which motor vehicles, or rather, people mis-using motor vehicles, have ravaged towns and city centres, killed and maimed hundreds of thousands of people, eroded public transport systems, made most neighbourhoods a network of roadways and garages (with houses attached), destroyed much of our natural environment, and wasted millions of pounds? Perhaps the greatest tragedy of all is that no "expert", least of all Professor Buchanan, has any remedy except that we must reconcile ourselves to more of the same.

Our primary aim now, before it is too late, should be to plan a long-term strategy which would enable society to use the motor vehicle rationally, and thus halt, or even reverse, the environmental and human damage which has so far resulted from its unplanned and unbridled use. This strategy must be firmly based on the concept of integrated transport, which would provide a real and economic choice of many forms of transport to the general public, through the mechanism of transport centres in every city, town, and neighbourhood. Different concentrations of industry and population would warrant different types of centres, but all would enable society to control and channel transport along socially agreed channels.

As an example, any railway station, such as Euston, would become a major centre. Not only would trains, tube, taxis, and buses be available, but rental cars and cycles would also be integrated into the station. Underground stations, bus depots, and neighbourhood garages would be used as smaller centres, in which similar choices would be available on a more limited scale. Equally important, new estates and council developments would be designed with a transport centre as a focal point; and new types of transport (such as electric cars) could be introduced without great personal expense and inconvenience. Villages and small towns would evolve a centre, probably based on a garage, which would provide car-hire, flexible bus service, and shared journeys.

The inexorable rise of privately owned motor cars on the roads can not be slowed and halted unless the rental of cars becomes economically and conveniently available for everyone, and unless there are other viable alternatives which are equally available at integrated transport centres. Once it is recognized that the issue is not car versus public transport, but chaos versus planned and integrated choices, we will begin to "solve" the transport problem, and at a lower cost.

The industrial lorry problem would similarly come closer to a solution once industrial parks were sited and planned with an industrial transport centre as their focal point. Containerization now enables different companies and different types of loads to be coordinated, allowing for interchangeability between rail, road, and ship, and could minimize the number of less-than-full loads and empty return journeys. Integrated transport will not happen by itself; it must be built in to the structure of our planning. Transport centres are one way to do this, perhaps the only realistic way.

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE FISHMAN,
Head of Department of Economics,
University of Keele,
Keele, Staffordshire.
March 21.

Original Bowdlerizer

From Dr Susan Shatto

Sir, Dr Norman Vance (March 24) reminds us that the author of Bowdler's *Family Shakespeare* was not a Victorian. May I remind your readers that the real author of Bowdler's *Family Shakespeare* was not Dr Bowdler, but his celebrated bluestocking sister, Henrietta Maria, known as Harriet.

The first edition of *The Family Shakespeare* (20 plays in four volumes) was published in Bath in 1807. The preface was unsigned and the editor remained anonymous, but Harriet's family and friends knew the work to be hers. She had already written (in 1786) a book of poems and essays which went into many editions. And she had published (anonymously) the best-selling *Sermons on the Doctrines and Duties of Christianity* (4th edition, 1803). This excellent volume was thought to be from the pen of a clergyman, and the Bishop of London invited the author to accept a parish in his diocese. The year after *The Family Shakespeare* appeared, Harriet edited and published (anonymously) a book which became very popular in religious circles, *Fragments in Prose and Verse, by a Young Lady, Lately Deceased*. In 1818 she published (anonymously) a volume of poems, and after her death in 1830 appeared a novel (*Pen Tamar, or the History of an Old Maid*, 1830) and an essay on "The Proper Employment of Time, Talents, and Fortune" (1836).

When the second and revised edition of *The Family Shakespeare* was published in 10 volumes in 1818, Dr Bowdler's name appeared as editor. Harriet, like other women writers of the period, had many times shrunk from the limelight of the title page. And certainly, as a spinster past middle age, she might not want the public to know that her understanding of Shakespeare was sufficient to expurgate it. Dr Bowdler edited all 36 plays but used Harriet's edition as a basis for editing the 20 plays which she had expurgated. He restored much that Harriet had cut but also cut much that she had let stand. This second edition of *The Family Shakespeare* made Dr Bowdler and his surname famous. And nowadays we forget that Harriet was the original Bowdlerizer, and not Thomas.

Yours sincerely,
SUSAN SHATTO,
The Shakespeare Institute,
The University,
Birmingham 15.
March 24.

Before St Augustine

From the General Secretary, The Church Lads' Brigade

Sir, Your correspondent, Sir Lincoln Hallinan (March 24) really cannot be allowed to refer, without being corrected, to St Gregory the Great as "The Pope who sent monks to England to begin the conversion to Christianity". It is the word "begin" which offends because it is common knowledge that Celtic Christianity was established in these islands long before Augustine of Canterbury came from Rome, and many of us today regard ourselves as successors of the Celtic saints rather than as breakaways from Rome.

Yours etc,
JOHN H. S. BURTON,
Claude Hardy House,
15 Etchingham Park Road,
Finchley, N3.
March 25.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TUC and worker participation

From the General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress

Sir, To correct the misleading impression conveyed in today's *Times* (March 29) by Mr Hugh Stephenson, that he TUC has "changed its mind" on its policy on industrial democracy, perhaps you will allow me to restate very briefly the clear position of the TUC, which was reiterated as recently as last week in a supplementary note of evidence submitted by the General Council to the Bullock Committee.

Our central proposal is that there must be a new structure of company law for large companies, with workers and shareholders being equally represented on the main policy board. The decision on whether workers' representatives should participate in this way will be taken through trade union machinery on a company by company basis; the new Companies Act would give the necessary statutory backing to this.

This has for some time been the central proposition in our policy. We have welcomed the Government's intention to legislate in the 1976-77 session, and I am quite sure that within a short time of the new Companies Act becoming operative the great majority of trade unions will demonstrate their practical support for this new dimension of involvement in the decision-making processes of British industry.

Yours sincerely,
LIONEL MURRAY,
General Secretary,
Trades Union Congress,
Congress House,
Great Russell Street, WC1.
March 29.

Tory candidates list

From Mr Anthony Grant, Conservative MP for Harrow, Central

Sir, On Saturday, for the second time, Mr George Hutchinson implied that the Conservative policy regarding candidates had been changed.

I think, therefore, I must make it clear that when I was Vice-Chairman of the party responsible for candidates, I received no orders or instructions whatever, either from Mr Heath or subsequently from Mrs Thatcher. Nor would I expect any because selection of Conservative candidates has for many years been a matter for the individual constituencies concerned and the list of candidates is determined by a committee of the party itself, independent of the leadership, and on which the Vice-Chairman responsible for candidates does not have a vote.

The purpose of the candidates list is to help constituencies and not in any way to dictate to them.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY GRANT,
House of Commons.
March 29.

Executed in Iraq

From the Iraqi Chargé d'Affaires

Sir, Your Hague correspondent's "Dutch Envoy Recalled" (*The Times*, March 17) conveniently ignores all the recent revelations concerning the deep involvement of Israel and the CIA in Mulla Barzani's puppet insurgency. The very natural insistence on the part of Israel and Holland that the Israeli spy caught red-handed in the north of Iraq was not a spy but "a male nurse" who was full of humanitarian zeal, is blindly accepted and used as an indictment against a country that did what any other sovereign state does under similar circumstances.

Certainly, *The Times* is not so trusting as to accept the threadbare cover of a spy and swallow the Dutch and Israeli old-as-the-mountains technique of confusing the issue through a lavish helping of sob-story material and allusions to a crackpot humanitarian.

If the Dutch are prepared to let their nationals acquire a dual nationality and serve as officers, spies and saboteurs in the service of Israel, they should not have the gall to denounce the victims of their collusion for trying to defend themselves. They may rest assured that any spy caught in Iraq will be treated as a spy and not sent away with a pat on the head.

Yours faithfully,
ISSAM MAHBOUB,
Chargé d'Affaires,
Embassy of the Republic of Iraq,
21 Queen's Gate, SW7.
March 24.

Archbishop Fisher

From the Revd Eric G. Jay

Sir, I am sorry that *The Times* should print the falsehood that "in 1955, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Fisher, was influential in persuading Princess Margaret not to marry the divorced Group Captain Townsend" (March 18).

There was no communication between the Princess and the Archbishop on this matter until the morning of Tuesday, March 8 of that year, when the Princess, after telephoning the Archbishop, drove to Lambeth Palace to tell him what *she* had decided.

Yours sincerely,
ERIC G. JAY (formerly Chaplain to Archbishop Fisher),
570 Milton Street, Apt 15,
Montreal H2X 1W4,
Canada.
March 19.

Wongs and whites

From Miss Barbara Angell

Sir, I doubt very much that the late Mr Arthur Calwell ever said "Two Wongs don't make a white" (report, March 24). To my knowledge, the quote first saw the light in a revue called *Outrageous Fortune* which was staged in Melbourne in 1961.

The item concerned was a satirical song about the white Australia policy. I know, because I wrote the song. If anyone can prove that Mr Calwell beat me to the line, I should be most interested to know.

Yours faithfully,
BARBARA ANGELL,
Production Coordinator,
Association of Australian Artistes,
Australia House,
The Strand, WC2.
March 24.

Freeing the council house serfs

From Mr Richard Edmonds

Sir, We endorse the view of your leading article (Freeing the council serfs? March 23), that the dispersal of council housing in the ways advanced by Mr Frank Field and Mr Peter Walker would lose for the country an inestimable economic asset. We agree that the opportunity to exploit historic costs through cross-subsidy between fortunate and disadvantaged authorities has never been sufficiently investigated.

The financial calculation for such a scheme have already been outlined by the Housing Centre Trust in its recently published evidence to the Secretary of State's housing finance review. The formula would cater for authorities burdened with improvement programmes as well as new building. Built-in safeguards, including the use of gross values, would prevent any geographical redistribution contrary to need and would preserve the freedom for each authority to fix individual rents. By distinguishing the mortgage, or equity, element from the service element in the rents charged new forms of tenure or contract are made easier.

Such a system would have the further merit of making it possible for public housing to receive subsidy by way of relief on its mortgage interest on the same terms as owner-occupiers are relieved of tax on their mortgage interest, thereby achieving a better financial and political balance between owning and renting. No other alternative appears to prevent rents from rising faster than earnings, unless subsidies are further increased at the cost of investment in new housing or improvement as has been the pattern of the last five years.

The lack of any objective system of rent fixing of the kind we propose encourages the setting of rents by political bargaining. It is this danger, as much as management patterns, which may suggest the condition of dependency for council tenants which Mr Field deplores. It fosters the idea of welfare housing reserved for the very poorest, a trend which would be socially undesirable.

Yours faithfully,
R. EDMONDS,
Housing Centre Trust,
62 Chandos Place, WC2.

From Mr A. W. Tait

Sir, Mr Balfe (March 25) asks for debate on his letter. The National House-Builders Registration Council, controlled by nominees of employers, unions, consumers, professions and building societies, put this middle view in recent evidence to the Secretary of State.

A family with the national average income moving into a new council house outside London will typically pay a rent of £6 or £7 a week. If the same family buy a house of the same standard they will, on average, pay £2,000 for deposit and up to £12 a week after tax. Obviously, the tenant is much better off in the short term.

In the long term, comparisons between the tenant in the rent controlled tenancy or in a council house, and the owner occupier are complex. If the tenant puts the money he saves in the short term (ie, £2,000 on deposit plus, say, £6 a week in weekly outgoings) in Index Linked Bonds, and Capital Gains Tax free Government stock, it is a moot point whether after, say, 30 years, he will be better off or worse off than the owner occupier. This will depend on the rate at which rents increase, and the rate of capital appreciation of house values, compared to the rate of capital appreciation of investment.

If the renter chooses not to save but spend, he will be worse off in the long run; but he will have enjoyed a higher standard of living meanwhile, and will probably end up with a rent rebate when he becomes a pensioner.

In those circumstances it can be seen that glib comments about pampered council tenants, or the tax advantages of owner occupiers, are over simplistic; they conceal more of the truth than they reveal. What is certain is that our present system tends to channel those with slightly below average incomes toward renting, because this is the only way in which they can get high initial subsidy.

This is a distortion of choice and is an unnecessarily expensive system in terms of call on public expenditure. It would be slightly cheaper to help many lower income families on the waiting lists to buy than to rent, because private homes are built more cheaply, because owners do their own maintenance and management, and because owners are willing to put in a higher proportion of their income.

Yours sincerely,
A. W. TAIT,
National House-Builders Registration Council,
58 Portland Place, W1.
March 25.

Law on obscenity

From the Director of the Nationwide Festival of Light

Sir, There are powerful arguments in support of your leading article of March 25, which rejects the Law Commission's suggestion that the exhibition and distribution of films should be tidily swept into the arms of the 1959 Obscene Publications Act. Your report of the House of Lords debate on March 24 shows that public and Parliamentary concern over the working of this discredited Act is now widespread and increasing.

The restraint of the exhibition of obscene films was intended by both Houses of Parliament to be left to the Common Law. This straightforward test of indecent public exhibition was applied last June by a randomly selected jury of citizens at the Central Criminal Court. They were able to reach a unanimous conclusion about a particular film. It is the Common Law which points the best way forward for any new statute.

The Post Office Acts and Customs legislation on prohibition of imports already use the straightforward concept of indecency. Now is not the time to abolish the Common Law offence. The Commission also appeared to have overlooked the difficulty caused by Lord Widgery's ruling (in R v Anderson) that "obscene" for the purposes of the Act meant, *and meant only*, that which has an effective tendency to deprave and corrupt.

However, it is good to see that the Commission believe that the distributors of obscene films should be subject to legal restraint. The Court of Appeal recently ruled that distributors were not liable under the 1959 Act.

A presumably more sensible definition of the limits of the public good defence proposed by the Commission is to be welcomed, but they propose it on the assumption that the 1959 Act provides the best model for cinematograph legislation, which it does not.

The most serious of all these proposals is the restriction upon the institution of proceedings, which the Commission suggests should be confined to the Director of Public Prosecutions or those who can obtain his consent. The precedent of the Theatres Act (which contains a similar restriction) is not as encouraging as the Commission appear to think.

Parliament never debated this issue fully when the Theatres Bill was being considered. It was touched upon in a Friday morning debate on a Private Member's Bill when less than forty Members were present. The principal result of this restriction has been the sanctioning of only one (provincial) prosecution under the Act since it became law. More than twenty other cases of prima facie obscene stage performances have been referred to the Attorney General since 1968. Friends of genuine theatre who deplore the present pervasive diet of stage sex in the West End might not like the Lord Chamberlain back, but at least they ought to know that he has been replaced by the Attorney General, whose influence is equally powerful—but in the reverse direction. The Theatres Act has manifestly failed to control stage obscenity.

The introduction of such a clause must be resisted on exactly the same grounds as it was by the Attorney General when it was proposed for the 1959 Obscene Publications Act (*Hansard*, April 24, 1959). In response to the Attorney General's overwhelming case at that time, Mr Jenkins withdrew the clause which would have forbidden the private citizen to institute proceedings unless he had obtained the permission of the Attorney General. Such a provision must not be slipped in anywhere else.

Yours sincerely,
O. R. JOHNSTON, Director,
Nationwide Festival of Light,
37 Eastwood Road,
South Woodford, E18.

Conditions in Brazil

From Mr G. L. Playfair

Sir, Mr Tam Dalyell's letter (March 12) is an astonishing document. Rightly pointing out that two weeks in Brazil do not make him "any kind of authority" he then proceeds to give a series of impressions that will strike anyone who, like myself, spent more than 10 years in that country as misleading if not totally false.

Passing over such details as the fact that Mr Dalyell has managed to misspell the names of every Brazilian he met and also that of the country's largest city, what really amazes me is his evident determination to whitewash a country against which even the conservative American Mr William Buckley has spoken out very forcefully. (He was able to find plenty of evidence for violation of human rights on a trip of even less than Mr Dalyell's two weeks.)

Suggestions that Brazilians are doing no worse than our Mr Rees is doing in Northern Ireland are outrageous. Does Mr Rees haul people off the street and return their bodies to their families later with a note "committed suicide while in prison"? Does he hang people on walls and give them electric shocks in their genitals? Or does he simply drop their corpses in the river? I could fill this page with first-hand accounts of such atrocities from Brazil, many of which have been presented to the UN Human Rights Commission.

To mention just one: only weeks after Mr Dalyell visited that island prison near Recife with its "ideal conditions", my friend Fred Morris—a Methodist missionary and fellow-journalist—was arrested in a Recife street and submitted to tortures so horrifying that the United States Ambassador lodged a formal protest with the Brazilian Government, based on the testimony of his own consul.

The Brazilian Ambassador has stated (February 27) in these columns that President Geisel is "making honest efforts" in "curbing violations of human rights". To my knowledge, this is the first time a Brazilian Government official has admitted that such rights are being violated. This is a welcome sign of a concern totally absent in the Medici and Costa e Silva administrations. But I will only be impressed by Geisel's alleged intentions when he starts bringing his more notorious torturers to trial.

Brazil is a large and complex country. Its present situation cannot be reduced to simple black and white terms. There is a great deal of good there as well as evil. I have met several senior government officials and policemen who are admirable human beings. I have also stared down the barrel of a gun held by a police officer with the uneasy feeling that I was in the presence of a criminal psychopath.

On the other hand, I am sure Mr Healey could learn a lot from Ambassador Campos (a former planning minister) about how to save an economy that was in far worse shape 10 years ago than ours is today. But we cannot expect Brazil suddenly to welcome Amnesty International with guided tours of its jails where political prisoners are held (if there are any left alive by now).

A European colleague of mine was recently refused permission to visit Dartmoor, no reason being given.

The only consolation I can draw from Mr Dalyell's letter is that the Labour Party has its bizarre factions on the right as well as the left.

Yours, etc,
G. L. PLAYFAIR,
As from 5 Wetherby Gardens, SW5.

Cutting down on youth clubs

From Mr Dennis Stevenson and Lord Spencer

Sir, One of the most disturbing features of current cuts in local authority spending is the reduction of essential services for young people (for example the closing and running down of youth clubs in rural areas, where there is no alternative, and inner city stress areas where the need for them is greatest).

As chairmen of two of the major voluntary youth organizations in the United Kingdom we are writing not so much to bemoan this fall in government expenditure but to emphasize the challenge it holds out to government, industry and individuals alike to make best use of the potential that exists to provide these services through voluntary effort and work. What can be done in practice to stimulate the voluntary enterprise and provision?

First, money. There now exist a large number of national and local voluntary youth organizations with a proven competence in harnessing volunteers and voluntary effort to a small professional staff so as to produce far greater output than government organizations. Let government, industry and individual citizens give that little bit extra to such movements to enable them to expand so as to meet the gaps created by the fall in statutory provision.

Then, people. Many adults would like to take on a voluntary role, but do not know how. Some have the personality that would be best used in face to face work with the young; let them approach the responsible voluntary movements and become involved in leadership. Others have the management skills to help in policy making, fund raising and administration whether nationally or locally; let them approach their voluntary organizations to make these badly needed skills available. People often ask how they can be of use. NAYC and NABC are but two of a number of well organized voluntary movements able to provide to those who offer their services adequate support and practical guidance.

In no way do we endorse the rundown in government expenditure in the youth service; it was already pitifully low. However, we hope that at least the shock it causes may stimulate voluntary efforts to meet the gap in provision all over the country.

DENNIS STEVENSON,
Chairman, National Association of Youth Clubs,
SPENCER,
Chairman, National Association of Boys' Clubs.

Policies for Rhodesia

From Mr David Tudor-Pole

Sir, In considering political realities in southern Africa I wonder if some thought can be given to the position of black Rhodesians serving Mr Smith's regime: I refer to soldiers, policemen and civil and domestic servants of the white population. Insofar as they serve an illegal government they may well officially be regarded as having forfeited any claim to protection from the British Crown.

For the same reason they may also come to be regarded as traitors to Zimbabwe, although at no time have they enjoyed—in practical terms—much measure of choice. Imperceptibly they have been pushed into their predicament by the economic and social pressures exerted by their white masters.

When the chips are down it is possible (even probable on humanitarian grounds) that an airlift or other means of escape will be open to the white minority. But what of the black? Is it realistic to suppose that they will not be left to a fate similar to that accorded to collaborators in European countries liberated in 1945? Their only hope seems to be that a black government of Zimbabwe will "astonish the world" by exercising a greater degree of toleration and statesmanship than was exampled in Europe and the USSR. May it be so.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID TUDOR-POLE,
20 Broadway Avenue,
St Margarets,
Twickenham, Middlesex.

The British Library

From Miss Winwood Reade

Sir, Your correspondent John Stewart Collis asks (March 18): who cares about the British Library? I do. I am rustic by nature and no longer like the ways of the metropolis. I can walk up a lane and meet the mobile van of the Oxfordshire County Library at a stop by a very fine plantation of mixed woodland which might even interest John Stewart Collis, author of *The Triumph of the Tree*. My latest request card to the librarian, who patiently deals with the varied tastes of rustic readers, was for a dissertation for a doctorate at Northwestern University, by Elaine Mozier Kauvar, on *Blake's Botanical Imagery*. This week I received a microfilm copy of this thesis which I am now reading quietly in an atmosphere of study in my own home. Where did our mobile librarian obtain this thesis for me? From The British Library. No wonder people like myself care deeply about every link in the chain of our magnificent public library service.

Yours faithfully,
WINWOOD READE,
Wilmcote,
Stoke Row, Henley, Oxon.

'Dear Reverend'

From Mr St John Harmsworth

Sir, The clergy are not the only body of men to attract unorthodox forms of address. Since my appointment as a magistrate I have kept a list of what people have called me. Top of my chart, on one occasion only, is "Your worshipful Holiness", a distinction to which I venture to believe comparatively few parsons can lay claim, "Your Majesty" twice, and lastly "Me old cock".

Yours truly,
ST JOHN HARMSWORTH,
Marlborough Street Magistrates' Court,
Great Marlborough Street, W1.

Law Report March 29 1976

Chancery Division

Financial hardship no bar to specific performance

Francis v Cowcliff Ltd.

Before Judge Rubin, sitting as deputy High Court judge.

[Judgment delivered March 26]

A landlord's financial inability to "provide and maintain a lift" for the use of tenants in compliance with a covenant in a lease does not operate to frustrate his obligation under it: nor does it constitute a defence to a claim for specific performance of the covenant.

Judge Rubin so held in granting Mrs Kathleen Dorothy Francis, tenant of a flat in Nevern Mansions, Kensington, an order for specific performance of the covenant against her landlords, Cowcliff Ltd.

Mr Geoffrey Jaques for the tenant: Mr J. J. Davis for the landlords.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the tenant, a widow of 70, had lived in a flat on the third floor of Nevern Mansions for 40 years. The landlords, by clauses in a lease granted to her by their predecessors in title, had covenanted to keep the exterior of the premises and all parts of the building, including hall, staircase and passage not the subject of that or any other letting, in good repair; and to provide services "where facilities exist to provide and maintain a lift or lifts for the use of tenants in the building". Part of such facilities was the provision of a hydraulic lift, which operated until February, 1972.

On August 13, 1972, the reversion was assigned to the present landlords, who financed the purchase by way of a loan mortgage.

In February, 1975, the tenant commenced proceedings. She sought an order that the landlords provide a lift in working order and damages for breach of covenant in lieu or in addition to the order. The landlords did not dispute breach of covenant but denied the tenant's right to have specific performance on the basis that it was impractical for them to provide a lift: at the trial they were given leave, on terms, to amend their defence that their obligation under the covenants had been frustrated.

There were three issues. Were the landlords excused from performing their obligation under the covenants because performance had been frustrated? If not, was the tenant entitled to specific performance? If not, what measure of damages was appropriate in lieu?

His Lordship, after reviewing the facts, concluded that the lack of a working lift had been a serious inconvenience and hardship to Mrs Francis. The evidence showed that restoration of the lift would be too costly and that installation of a new lift would cost £24,646, of which the landlords had paid a little over £4,000 for a lift which was waiting to be installed.

The landlords' only reason for not proceeding with the work was that they did not have adequate finance. Accounts for the relevant periods showed that they had a bank overdraft of £16,535 and that they owed the Inland Revenue £20,000: both were pressing for payment. Clearly the landlords were insolvent and unable to meet their debts unless further finance was provided from outside sources.

The landlords said that no further finance was forthcoming because of the property market collapse. It was argued that the refusal of the landlords' mortgagee to make further advances released them from further performance of the covenants.

His Lordship accepted that the doctrine of frustration applied to a covenant in a lease so long as it created a continuing or future obligation; but in his judgment the landlords' case was a long way from frustration. The fact that they could not raise the necessary money for the work did not make the thing to be done different from that contracted for.

The tenant relied on section 125 of the Housing Act, 1974, which enabled the court to grant specific performance of a repairing covenant "relating to any part of the premises in which the dwelling is comprised"; and on the general principle that, in an appropriate case, the court would decree specific performance of an agreement to build if certain conditions were satisfied: *Jeune v Queens Cross Properties* ([1974] Ch 97).

Prima facie the tenant was entitled to specific performance. But as the remedy was equitable and discretionary, the court would not grant it where it would inflict great hardship on a defendant. *Snell's Principles of Equity* (27th ed, p598) put the matter thus: "To constitute a defence, however, the hardship must have existed at the date of the contract; specific performance will not be refused merely because, owing to events which have happened since the contract was made, the completion of the contract will cause hardship. Financial inability to complete is not hardship". *Nicholas v Ingram* ([1958] NZLR 972) was cited in support.

In the present case, there was no hardship at all at the time of the contract. If ever there was a case in which the defendant had brought hardship on himself, the present must be it. The landlords chose to purchase and embark upon an expensive scheme for development of the property without any adequate finance and without making any but the most speculative arrangements for such finance.

For those reasons an order for specific performance would be made. It was said that it would inevitably result in the company being wound up. Even if that were so, it did not seem to his Lordship to be any reason why the tenant should not have her order. In any event he was far from satisfied that the guarantors of the mortgage loan would not provide the necessary money to do the requisite works and stave off the creditors.

If his Lordship was wrong in granting specific performance, the damages which he would have awarded in lieu would have been £350.

Leave to appeal was granted.

Solicitors: Mr Timothy Boulton; Culross, Lipkin & Co.

Wrong court for nuisance cases

Parsons and Another v Levington and Another

The High Court was not a proper forum for the hearing of nuisance cases between neighbours, Mr Justice Donaldson said in the Queen's Bench Division. Exclusive jurisdiction should be given to the county court to hear those cases as the county court judge would be more familiar with the locality and could take a view. The costs would be lower. County court registrars should be encouraged to act as ocnciliators in such disputes as there was no single right solution and the parties should be assisted to reach an adequate solution.

Court of Appeal

Shipbuilding custom of Japanese upheld

Reardon Smith Line Ltd v Yngvar Hansen-Tangen, Sanko Steamship Co (third party)

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Stephenson and Lord Justice Bridge

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the plaintiffs, Reardon Smith Line Ltd, of Cardiff, from Mr Justice Mocatta's order of March 15 that, upon the true construction of a charter of October 1973, between them and the defendants, Yngvar Hansen-Tangen, trading as H. E. Hansen-Tangen, of Norway, they were not entitled to refuse to take delivery of a tanker now known as Diana Prosperity because she had been built at Oshima, Japan, by the Oshima Shipbuilding Co Ltd, and not at Osaka by the Osaka Shipbuilding Co Ltd and because she bore the yard no 004 and not "Yard no 354 at Osaka Zosen".

The appeal had been expedited. It was stated that between the conclusion of the hearing on March 26 and the delivery of the judgments agreement had been reached whereby delivery of the ship (on which a loss of £11m was expected) would be taken without prejudice to the subsequent determination of the legal position.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted.

Mr R. A. MacCrindle, QC, Mr Basil Eckersley and Mr Alan Pardoe for Reardon Smith; Mr J. S. Hobhouse, QC, and Mr Michael Dean for Hansen; Mr Robert S. Alexander, QC, and Mr Nicholas Phillips for Sanko Steamship Co.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that three months ago a big oil tanker, the Diana Prosperity, had been launched in Japan, but prosperity was not her future. She was now nearly ready to be delivered. But no one wanted her, and she would be laid up.

In 1972 there was a demand for more and bigger tankers, and Sanko sought to meet it. They planned the building of 50 tankers of 80,000 tons each. Existing shipyards had to be enlarged, new ones had to be built. Then the vessels themselves were to be built. In order to raise the money, Sanko granted time-charters of the vessels long before they were built, and at rates below the current market rates of hire. They made firm fixtures of the non-existent vessels. Sanko were bound to have the vessels built and the charterers were bound to take them. Armed with those fixtures, Sanko were able to borrow money from bankers to carry out their programme.

In 1973 Sanko ran into difficulties due to currency troubles between the dollar and the yen. After negotiations 18 of the charterers agreed to cancel the charters and Sanko gave each of them $3m to do so. But the other 32, including Hansen, continued the charters; it seemed advantageous at the time. Hansen sub-chartered to Reardon Smith.

In 1974 the oil-producing countries raised the price of oil. Far less oil was transported, and there was no need for so many tankers.

The Japanese had committed themselves to vast outlays to build the vessels. The charterers did not want to take delivery of the vessels because they would be saddled with them for five years paying huge sums in charter hire. No negotiations took place, so the Japanese went on building the vessels. The Diana Prosperity, launched on December 28, 1975, was due to be delivered on April 1, 1976.

The charterers said that the vessel which they had chartered was described as "to be built by Osaka Shipbuilding Co Ltd and known as hull 354 until named", whereas the vessel to be tendered had been built by the Oshima Shipbuilding Co Ltd at their Oshima yard, 300 miles from Osaka, and was known as hull no 004 of Oshima.

The charterers had taken out a summons to determine whether the vessel was the one chartered. The question was to be decided on the assumption that, save for the discrepancy, the vessel was in exact accord with the charter.

The Osaka company had been established for 40 years and had a high reputation. They had a shipyard at Osaka, but as they could not build vessels of more than 45,000 tons there they had to construct a new yard at Oshima. To exploit it, the Osaka company entered into a joint venture with two companies of the big Sumitomo group. A new company was formed, called the Oshima Shipbuilding Co Ltd, 50 per cent of whose shares were held by the Osaka company.

The vessel was to be constructed by Oshima at their yard under the supervision of the Osaka company and the owners (a Liberian company called Sculptor Shipping Co Ltd). The hull number was to be 004 of Oshima under a sub-sub-contract, by which the Osaka company employed the Oshima company to carry out the construction of the vessel at their Oshima yard.

It was quite clear that so far as everyone in Japan was concerned the vessel was constructed by the Osaka company, who sublet the contract to the Oshima company. Oshima did the work under the supervision of Osaka, many of whose personnel were seconded to work on the vessel.

In the charter parties—a head charter governed by English law, intermediate charter, and sub-charter—the vessel was always given the number Osaka 354. There was no reference to Oshima 004. The charterers and their brokers had thought that the vessel was to be built by the Osaka company itself and given the number 354 as the 354th vessel to be built by that company.

On the first question, "was this the vessel?", the judge had found for the charterers against the Japanese.

His Lordship had found the point of construction difficult. The Japanese had interpreted the words and numbering in a different sense to the Norwegian charterers and English sub-charterers. The words were to be construed according to English law.

The solution was to be found by looking at the surrounding circumstances. The Osaka company had no facilities at Osaka for building an 80,000-ton tanker, so it would have to be constructed at some other yard. It was to be constructed in Japan, where it was customary for a party to sub-contract the building of the whole of the vessel. The numbering would be in accordance with the numbering customary in Japan. By Japanese usage, Osaka 354 was an accepted way of numbering the vessel, even though it was built at Oshima as no 004. The charterers could not avail themselves of their ignorance of those circumstances. They had chosen to charter a vessel to be built in Japan by Japanese and must be taken to know the surrounding circumstances relevant to the construction of the charter.

The vessel which the Japanese were about to tender was the vessel Osaka no 354 described in the charter and the charterers were not entitled to refuse to take delivery.

Mr Justice Mocatta had found that, although the vessel to be tendered did not comply with the contractual description, that non-compliance was not such as to entitle the charterers to reject delivery.

The charterers had relied on *Bowes v Shand* ((1877) 2 App Cas 455) and *Arcos Ltd v Ronaasen & Son* ([1933] AC 470). The distinction between the identity of goods and their attributes was most elusive. His Lordship accepted the authority of those cases in reference to contracts for the sale of future goods but did not think that they applied to other contracts.

His Lordship agreed with what Mr Justice Devlin said in the *Cargo Ship El-Yam* case ([1958] 1 Lloyd's Rep 33, 52). Everything depended on the true construction of the contract. If the stipulated description was a strict condition precedent, then the other party was entitled to require it to be strictly complied with to the letter. But if it was not a strict condition precedent he was not entitled to insist upon its being fulfilled to the very letter. What was said by Lord Justice Diplock in the *Hongkong Fir* case ([1962] 2 QB 26, 70) and by Mr Justice Roskill in *The Madeleine* ([1967] 2 Lloyd's Rep 224, 241) did not accord with *The Hansa Nord* (*The Times*, July 17, 1975; [1976] 1 QB 44). The appeal should be dismissed.

LORD JUSTICE STEPHENSON, concurring, said that the question whether the vessel to be tendered was the vessel bargained for was to be answered not by Aristotelian analysis but according to such tests as men in the market would apply: *Christopher Hill Ltd v Ashington Piggeries* ([1972] AC 441, 499, per Lord Wilberforce). His Lordship was content to accept the law applicable to charters for the hire of vessels as that which was stated in regard to the hire of motor vehicles by Lord Justice Upjohn in *Astley Industrial Trust Ltd v Grimley* ([1963] 1 WLR 584, 597).

LORD JUSTICE BRIDGE, also concurring, said that the question whether the Diana Prosperity could fairly be described as built by Osaka had to be looked at from the point of view of someone familiar with the Japanese shipbuilding industry.

Solicitors: Norton, Rose, Botterell & Roche; Sinclair Roche & Temperley; Ince & Co.

Change of plea

Regina v Powles

The growing practice of an accused changing a plea of not guilty to guilty as a result of a ruling of law given by the judge during a trial should be followed with care, Lord Justice James said in the Court of Appeal.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the appellant changed his plea to guilty after the judge had ruled that, on the evidence, no reasonable jury could reach the conclusion that between the time of driving and the time of providing a specimen of urine for a laboratory test, the appellant had taken an additional drink.

A person who had pleaded guilty at his trial could apply in certain cases, to the Court of Appeal for leave to appeal against conviction, for example, where, as in the present appeal, the plea of guilty had been consequent upon a ruling of law which was a misdirection. But the procedure of changing a plea to guilty should be followed with care, for it might well be that the appropriate course was to let the judge give his directions to the jury in the ordinary way and let the jury decide the issue. If there was a misdirection in the summing up, an appeal could be brought on that ground.

Council not liable for watercourse

Gilson v Kerrier Rural District Council

Before Lord Justice Buckley, Lord Justice Geoffrey Lane and Lord Justice Goff

[Judgments delivered March 25]

When a watercourse vested in a local authority under section 64 of the Public Health Act, 1875, the local authority acquired an estate in fee simple absolute and not any determinable estate as in the case of a highway.

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by the plaintiff, Mrs Mary Denise Gilson, the owner in fee simple of Trebarvah, Constantine, Cornwall, from the dismissal by Mr Justice Templeman in February, 1975, of her action for a declaration that the defendants, Kerrier Rural District Council, were under a statutory or alternatively common law duty to maintain and repair a watercourse running through her land or alternatively were liable to take such steps by way of maintenance and repair as were appropriate to prevent damage from the watercourse constituting a nuisance or trespass.

Mr J. A. R. Finlay, QC, and Mr Patrick Powell for Mrs Gilson; Mr D. H. Mervyn Davies, QC, and Mr G. C. Raffety for the local authority.

LORD JUSTICE BUCKLEY said that about 1845 a public supply of water had been brought to Constantine village by means of an artificial watercourse, constructed by public subscription, which traversed Trebarvah Farm, providing the farmyard and three fields with water. In 1963 a mains water supply and drainage had been established for the village. In 1969, due to particularly heavy rainfall and a blockage in or near a catchpit at the point where the watercourse entered the farm, serious flooding had occurred.

Mrs Gilson alleged that the watercourse had vested in the local authority pursuant to section 64 of the Public Health Act, 1875, which provided that "all existing ... conduits aqueducts and works used for the gratuitous supply of water to inhabitants of the district of any local authority shall vest in and be under the control of such authority and such authority may cause the same to be maintained and plentifully supplied with pure and wholesome water. ..."

The local authority claimed that the section applied only to water supplies fit for human consumption and that the watercourse did not provide such a supply. His Lordship could see no justification for limiting the section in that way or for disturbing the judge's finding that the watercourse provided a water supply for all the purposes of the section.

The watercourse came within the words "conduits aqueducts and works" in section 64. It provided a gratuitous supply of water to the inhabitants of the district, and the fact that the farm enjoyed benefits not enjoyed by other inhabitants did not take the watercourse outside the section. Accordingly it did vest in the local authority by the operation of section 64. The estate which so vested extended to all man-made works which contributed to making water available to the public in the area.

On the question of the nature of that estate, the court had been referred to *Tithe Redemption Commission v Runcorn UDC* ([1954] Ch 383), in which the Court of Appeal had come to the conclusion that a highway authority which had a highway vested in it under section 149 of the Public Health Act, 1875, acquired a determinable fee simple. But section 149 was concerned with a different kind of subject matter from section 64.

When a highway ceased to be a highway it was inert and unlikely to give rise to a nuisance. A watercourse, on the other hand, was dynamic, and if it was not kept clean and in repair the water would be liable to damage not only the property traversed but also neighbouring property. It would be surprising if by merely discontinuing the use of a watercourse as a public supply the local authority could shift on to the shoulders of the owners or occupiers through whose land it passed the burden of maintaining it in a state in which is would not be likely to cause trouble.

Moreover, a formal legal act was required to put an end to the existence of a highway as a highway, but there was no similar procedure for putting an end to a water supply as a public supply.

A highway could not properly be regarded as analogous for present purposes to a watercourse, and his Lordship would hold that the watercourse had vested in the local authority for a fee simple absolute and not for any determinable estate.

The local authority, however, had ceased to own the watercourse. Under the South Cornwall Water Board Order, 1967, by which local authority water undertakings were transferred to the Water Board on April 1, 1968, the watercourse had vested in the board. Accordingly, the local authority could not have been responsible for the flooding in 1969.

In any event the local authority could not be liable to Mrs Gilson in nuisance or under the rule in *Rylands v Fletcher* because of consent. *Cairstairs v Taylor* ((1871) LR 6 Exch 217) and *A. Prosser & Son Ltd v Levy* ([1955] 1 WLR 1224) had proceeded on the basis that any one who collected potentially dangerous subject matter such as water on his own property was not liable for damage caused by its escape to a person for whose benefit, at least in part, the accumulation had been made and whose consent thereto could be inferred. In the present case it was proper to infer that the owner of the farm at the time of the works had consented to the works crossing his land because of the benefits he would obtain from having access to the water.

Moreover, Mrs Gilson had leased the farm to a tenant farmer, who was in occupation. Accordingly, it was incumbent on her to prove damage to her reversion, which she had not done.

LORD JUSTICE GEOFFREY LANE concurred except in so far as he was not satisfied that any part of the watercourse upstream of the farm ever vested in the local authority.

Lord Justice Goff concurred with Lord Justice Buckley.

Solicitors: E. P. Rugg & Co for Frank & Caffin, Truro; Balderston, Warren & Co for Hancock & Lawrence, Helston.

COURT CIRCULAR

INDSOR CASTLE

arch 29: The Queen and The ke of Edinburgh have arrived Windsor Castle.

By command of The Queen, the rl of Westmorland (Lord in aiting) was present at Gatwick rport, London, this morning on the departure of The Presi nt of The Gambia and bade fare ll to His Excellency on behalf Her Majesty.

ENSINGTON PALACE

arch 29: The Princess Margaret, ountess of Snowdon this even g attended a Gala Performance the Actors Company at the imbledon Theatre, in aid of helter.

The Hon Mrs Wills was in tendance.

mpress Farah of Iran is to visit e United Kingdom from April to 10 as a guest of Queen izabeth the Queen Mother and e Government.

memorial service for Field Mar al Viscount Montgomery of amein is to be held at Binsted rish church, Hampshire, on nday at 10.30.

service of remembrance for Thomas Spencer will be held the Church of St Clement Danes, rand, London, WC2, on Tues y, May 4, 1976, at noon.

irthdays today

lonel Sir Bartle Edwards, 85; ofessor Sir Ernst Gombrich, 67; Andrew McCance, 87; Vis unt Radcliffe, 77; Sir Derek yner, 50; Sir Peter Scarlett, ; Mr Herbert van Thal, 72.

oday's engagements

incess Margaret visits *Express and Star* office, Wolverhampton, and publishing centre, West Bromwich, 11.30.

e Duke and Duchess of Glou ester attend a ladies' banquet f Masons' Company, Mansion House, 7.25.

e Duchess of Gloucester opens xtensions of Gloucester House, t Bartholomew's Hospital, 2.55.

incess Alexandra visits National Heart Hospital, Westmoreland treet, to mark opening of ex ension to children's ward, .30.

nch-hour dialogue: Lord Long ord with the Rev Joseph Mc ulloch, St Mary-le-Bow, Cheap ide, 1.05.

arriage

T. R. Illingworth
l Mrs R. Kousheshi

e marriage took place on Sat ay, in Miami, between Mr hard Illingworth and Mrs imeh Kousheshi.

ncheons

tish Council

John Llewellyn, Director eral, British Council, and dy Llewellyn were hosts at a ncheon yesterday at 10 Spring rdens in honour of Mr Bertil nchisson, Minister of Education, reden.

yal Over-Seas League

e chairman of the Royal Over as League, Marshal of the RAF, rd Elworthy, and members of e central council entertained Mr lcolm Macdonald, president of e Royal Commonwealth Society, luncheon yesterday at Over as House, St James.

ciety of County Public Relations ficers

e annual luncheon of the ciety of County Public Rela ns Officers was held yesterday the Tower Hotel. Mr Colin ter presided and the guest of nour was Mr Henry James, ector-General, Central Office Information.

inners

f Government

Peter Shore, Secretary of te, Department of Trade, was st at a dinner at the Savoy tel last night in honour of the ited Kingdom/Saudi Arabian nt Commission.

dy Mayoress

e Lord Mayor and the Lady yoress entertained the following ests at dinner at the Mansion use yesterday:

e High Commissioner for New land and Mrs Watt, Lord Shawcross, Colonel and Alderman Lord and y Mais, Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon Martin and Lady Charteris, the airman of the Council of the Stock change and Mrs Goodison, Colonel l Mrs W. H. Whitbread, the Prime rden of the Fishmongers Company l Mrs Noble, Miss Rosemary Ring l Mr and Mrs Alfred B. Shindler.

andscape competition restore derelict site

e restoration of a derelict 10- e site in Stoke-on-Trent is to the subject of a competition ablished by the Nan Fairbrother morial Trust.

The competition, with a first ze of £500, is intended to elicit aginative ideas for landscaping d environmental improvement. tails are obtainable from the ndscape Research Group, Long or, 8 Cunningham Road, Ban ad, Surrey SM7 3HG.

Nan Fairbrother, who died in 71, is best known for her book, *w Lives, New Landscapes*, ich won the W. H. Smith Liter y Award in 1970

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. P. Bennell and Miss F. M. Blair

The engagement is announced between Alan Paul Bennell, son of Mr and Mrs R. G. Bennell, of Seaford, Sussex, and Frances Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs P. D. Blair.

Mr D. G. de Mallet Morgan and Miss R. M. Ranking

The engagement is announced between David Geoffrey, younger son of Mr and Mrs G. T. M. de Mallet Morgan, of Cowford House, Eridge, Sussex, and Ruth Mary, daughter of his Honour Judge R. D. Ranking and Mrs Ranking, of 2 Hungershall Park, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

Mr J. M. Dooley and Miss R. M. S. Wise

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Mr and Mrs A. Dooley, Hilton, Huntingdon, and Rosemary, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs C. S. Wise, Boat of Garten, Inverness-shire.

Mr J. H. M. Farber and Miss S. L. Thomas

The engagement is announced between Martin, son of Mr and Mrs J. Farber, of Newlands, Cape Town, South Africa, and Sara, daughter of Commander J. S. C. Thomas, RN, and the late Mrs M. J. Thomas and stepdaughter of Mrs D. W. Thomas, of Haslemere, Surrey.

Mr B. A. Hill and Miss J. L. Raymond

The engagement is announced between Brent, only son of Mrs Moreen Hill, of Tyringham, Buckinghamshire, and Mr Keith Ritches, of Glasgow, and Judith, second daughter of Dr Michael Raymond and the late Dr Joan Raymond, of Worth, Sussex.

Mr W. J. M. Lovel and Miss R. F. Turnbull

The engagement is announced between William John Marrian, only son of the late Professor R. W. Lovel and Mrs Lovel, of Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, and Roslyn Frances, only daughter of the late Mr N. Turnbull and Mrs Turnbull, formerly of Ponteland, Northumberland.

Mr A. A. A. Maitland and Miss A. C. Kirk-Owen

The engagement is announced between Antony, son of Mr and Mrs D. S. Maitland, of the Dower House, Oaken, Wolverhampton, and Alice, daughter of the late Mr R. Kirk-Owen and of Mrs Kirk-Owen, of Burcher Cottage, Titley, near Kington, Herefordshire.

Mr S. D. C. Ostrowski and Miss S. K. O'Neill

The engagement is announced between Sean, elder son of Mr and Mrs Andrzej Ostrowski, of Chorlton on Medlock, Manchester, and Sally, daughter of Captain F. C. O'Neill, RD, RNR, and Mrs O'Neill, of Pinner, Middlesex.

Mr N. M. D. Service and Miss S. M. Amis

The engagement is announced between Nigel, second son of the late Commander D. W. Service and of Mrs Service, of 16 Redington Road, Hampstead, and Sally, only daughter of Kingsley Amis, of Lemmons, Hadley Common, Hertfordshire, and Mrs Boyd, of Palacio De Mondragon, Ronda, Malaga.

Meissen armorial dish linked with Russian Empress fetches £5,720

By Geraldine Norman
Sale Room Correspondent

A single Meissen armorial dish was sold for £5,720 (estimate £2,500 to £3,500) at Christie's yesterday. Even the famous Swan service never brought as much as that.

The dish came from an historically fascinating service, given by Augustus III to Elizabeth, Empress of all the Russias, in 1743. It is decorated with sprays of flowers, the Russian Imperial Eagle and the cross of the St Andrew Order, founded in 1698.

Recent scholarship has proved it to be of earlier date than was thought. Research in the Russian state archives has revealed a record of the receipt of the gift, which was personally unpacked by the Empress. The dish was bought by Kate Foster, a London dealer.

The sale also included the third part of a remarkable collection, formed over the past 15 years or so, of cups and saucers. The 99 lots in yesterday's sale made £47,550. The collection as a whole has stimulated strong bidding and made £112,054.

The top price yesterday was £3,960 (estimate £3,000 to £4,000) paid by Kate Foster for a Capodimonte landscape teacup and saucer by Giovanni Caselli. The £3,850 (estimate £1,200 to £1,400) for a Vienna teabowl and saucer decorated in schwartzlot and gold came as a surprise. It had two minor chips, but both pieces bore the mark J.H., of the famous decorator Jacok Helchis.

The sale totalled £93,321, with 6 per cent unsold.

At Sotheby's a sale of portrait miniatures attracted an army of Continental dealers. On the better miniatures bidding was intensely competitive. A fine plumbago miniature of Charles II by Robert White, dated 1678, made £1,078 (estimate £300 to £500), the highest auction price on record for a plumbago or pencil miniature.

A Richard Cosway miniature of General William Loftus, which had cracked in two, was bid to £902 (estimate £300 to £400). The sale totalled £41,588 with 8 per cent unsold.

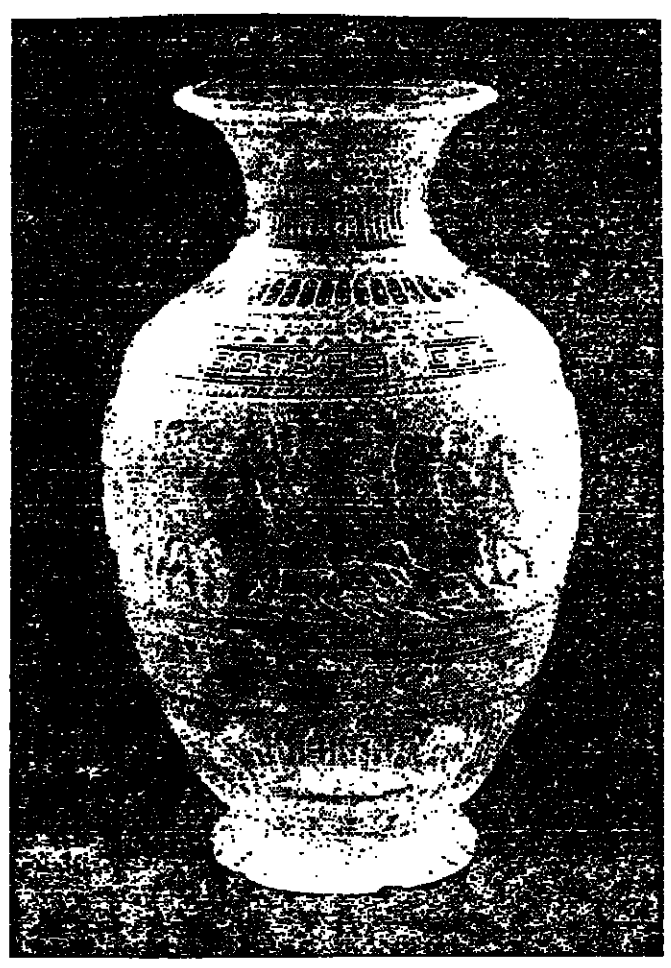
Sotheby's also held a sale of Russian and Greek icons which made £56,876, with 12 per cent unsold. The three top prices in the sale were all paid by Kadri, a Greek dealer.

He paid £4,180 (estimate £4,000 to £5,000) for a seventeenth-century large Russian icon of the Resurrection, £3,300 (estimate £3,000 to £4,000) for an early seventeenth-century Russian icon of "The three women at the Sepulchre", and £2,860 (estimate £1,200 to £1,500) for a Resurrection icon of about 1800.

A book sale, also at Sotheby's made £18,839, with 5 per cent unsold.

A sale held by H. C. Wolton and Son at Bury St Edmunds included a fine early eighteenth-century upright clock by Simon Thorn, of Tiverton, at £2,000.

£880 bookcases: A pair of Victorian mahogany veneered secretaire bookcases were sold at Phillips for £880 to Curzon (estimate £700). An antique carved oak cupboard went to Martin for £540 (estimate £400). The sale totalled £24,575, with 4 per cent unsold. A sale of oil paintings totalled £17,660, with 7 per cent unsold.



This carved "Elgin Vase", 19cm high, by Frederick Kny, is one of the lots in the sale of a complete private collection of art glass at Phillips on Friday.

Scheme to foster adolescents is successful

By Penny Symon

A year after Kent's experimental scheme to foster disturbed adolescents was launched, the organizers were able to report yesterday that it had been a success so far.

The Special Family Placement Project, which received financial backing from the Gatby Foundation, was set up last March by Kent social services department for a five-year period. The thinking behind it challenged the assumption that severely disturbed teenagers could not be placed with normal families in the community.

The project aimed to provide a kind of bridge from the adolescent to the adult world, by placing difficult and disturbed young people between the ages of 14 and 17, many of whom had committed offences, in the homes of selected and trained couples who receive a fee of £32.50 a week and a boarding-out payment, bringing the total to about £42 a week.

More than sixty families quickly answered the call for volunteers, even though they were told that it was very likely that troubles could arise. "The child may truant from school, steal, lie, wet his bed or be unable to utter a word to anyone. He may desperately need love and attention but may find it difficult to accept or give affection", the families were told.

Some dropped out, but by last summer more than twenty were actively involved in the scheme and so far 21 children have been placed; a further nine will go to foster families soon.

At a news conference in Maidstone yesterday Miss Nancy Hazel, the project organizer, who is a senior research fellow at Kent University, said that of the first 13 placements, which had lasted for six months or more, seven were doing well, in three cases there was either slight or considerable change for the better, in two there appeared to be no change and one placement had broken down very early on.

One child, aged 14, had joined the project from an adult prison and another, aged 15, from the locked ward of a mental hospital. "We need a few more families willing to undertake this task", Miss Hazel said. "We know now that our package deal works and soon there will be 30 children in placement from the age group which is generally considered to be the hardest to place. Their symptoms range from overt delinquency to depressed withdrawal, and we have not selected one type of adolescent problem rather than another.

"Two facts stand out clearly: The initial assessment is often misleading, as totally different problems may be discovered after placement. For example, one project family discovered that their girl had been habitually exposing herself to attract older men for sexual relations. No one had known about this before and, once in the open, the behaviour soon disappeared.

"Secondly, adolescents with an appalling record may settle down with no trouble at all. One boy who had been in an adult prison as unruly at the age of 14, has been living peacefully in his foster-home for six months."

The adolescents said that they preferred foster-homes to residential care, and their repeated criticism of residential care was that "nobody listens". The final choice on whether a child should be placed in a foster-home always rested with the child.

Mr Nicolas Stacey, director of social services for Kent, said that the cost of keeping a disturbed adolescent in a residential institution was about £100 a week, and in some establishments considerably higher.

"The old methods are enormously expensive; the children keep absconding from those institutions which have a very poor success rate of dealing with the problems of the young misfit or offender. This project is an experiment aimed at developing an alternative way of tackling one of society's most complex human problems."

Some of the foster-parents taking part in the scheme said yesterday that they were pleased they had done so, and now felt totally committed to it.

One, who had taken a boy aged 15 who had committed offences and was severely emotionally disturbed, said that he was settling down in the family. He had been with them for six months. "He is now beginning to realize that tomorrow exists", the foster-parent said.

The first year, Miss Hazel added, had not been without its difficulties. One boy aged 15 was stopped by the police at the wheel of his foster-father's car and charged.

"One other child committed a very minor offence, but these have been the only two so far, and therefore we feel that the scheme is a success."

A poster from an exhibition of presidential campaign memorabilia which opened at the American Embassy last night. It is open on weekdays until April 30.

25 years ago

From The Times of Friday, March 30, 1951.

Atomic secrets

From Our Own Correspondent

New York, March 29.—Julius Rosenberg, an electrical engineer, his wife, Ethel, and Morton Sobell, a radar expert, were today found guilty by a jury in the federal court here of espionage in war-time—transmitting to Russian agents important information about the atomic bomb and other secrets of United States defence.

In the course of the trial Greenglass, who had worked on the atomic bomb project at Los Alamos, New Mexico, asserted that the Rosenbergs had asked him to get information which was given to Russian agents by Harry Gold, a Philadelphia chemist. Gold, who confessed his guilt and said he had acted as a go-between also for Klaus Fuchs and the Russians, is now serving a prison sentence of 30 years.

Archaeology report

Northampton: Neolithic camp site

The first total excavation of a neolithic causewayed camp, one of the earliest monuments to communally directed activity in the history of British society, is in the second of an estimated five-year programme at Briar Hill, near Northampton. So far, evidence of the cleaning out of the enclosing ditches and of normal domestic activities has been found.

The "causewayed camps", of which several dozen examples are known in southern Britain from roughly the period between 4,000 and 3,200 BC, are so called because their concentric rings of ditches, are interrupted by numerous crossing-places, making a defensive function improbable. Guesses as to their use range from cattle corrals to tribal gathering places, but the labour invested in their construction indicates that people living over a fairly wide area would have been involved in their building and use.

The excavation, which is being carried out by Dr Helen Bamford, of the Northampton Development Corporation Archaeological Unit, in advance of development, came after the discovery of the site by aerial photography and a complete survey by fluxgate gradiometer. That suggested that two main ditch circuits existed, about 15 metres apart, with a smaller inner enclosure, the entire site covering about four hectares on a gentle slope on the south side of the Nene valley, just below the later Hunsbury Iron Age hillfort.

The ditches proved to be steep sided and flat bottomed, some dug deep into the ironstone bedrock, with the causeways between them ranging from 30cm to several metres in width. Several of the ditch segments had been cleaned out, recut or enlarged, sometimes when the silting of the original ditch had reached a metre or more in depth, suggesting utilization of the site over several centuries. The upcast from the ditches presumably formed banks, as on better preserved sites.

The fills of the ditches and the surface of the subsoil yielded much debris from the manufacture of flint implements as well as the implements themselves, including knives, saws and arrowheads, and part of a polished stone axe, which probably came from the Great Langdale axe-factory in Cumbria.

The pottery, which was in poor condition, consisted of plain, round-based bowls of characteristic Middle Neolithic style; at higher levels late Neolithic and Bronze Age pottery was found, and a cremation burial in a pit dug into one of the causeways is probably of the latter date. Subsequent use of the site is indicated by traces of what may have been an Iron Age farmstead, Roman pottery, and some Saxon sunken huts (*grübenhäuser*) containing pottery and metalwork.

By Norman Hammond
Archaeological Correspondent

University news

Oxford

Elections

Dr F. S. L. Lyons, MA, PhD, LittD, Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, to be Ford's Lecturer in English History, 1977-78.

NUFFIELD COLLEGE: Prize fellowships, P. J. Dunleavy, BA (Gwilym Gibbon); P. McCormick, BA; J. P. Neary, MA, University College, Dublin (Heyworth).

ST JOHN'S COLLEGE: Junior research fellows from October 1, R. N. Gildea, MA, St Antony's College (modern history); M. V. Aris, BA (Dunelm), London University (oriental studies).

ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE: CEGB research fellow in applied mathematics, D. J. Acheson, MSc, PhD; Charles E. Morrill, research fellow in European Studies, L. Tsoukalis, BA, DPhil; domestic bursar, E. L. French.

LINACRE COLLEGE: Fellowships: Mrs U. M. Dronke, BLitt, MA (Cantab), Somerville College, Vigfusson Reader in Icelandic Literature and Antiques; Rev R. C. Morgan, MA (Cantab), lecturer in New Testament theology; junior research fellowship from October 1, C. M. Dobson, MA, DPhil, Merton and Keble.

Cambridge

Honorary degrees are to be conferred on the following on June 10:

DD: Professor P. A. H. de Boer, professor of Old Testament at Leiden University.

LL D: C. H. Cripps, honorary fellow of Magdalene, St John's and Selwyn Colleges, Cambridge.

ScD: Dr L. V. Kantorovich, member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR; and Dr Y. B. Zeldovich, member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

LittD: Professor U. Bosco, emeritus professor of Italian literature at Rome University; Dr L. Henry, of the Institut National d'Etudes Démographiques, Paris; and G. H. W. Rylands, fellow of King's College, Cambridge.

MusD: Miss Elisabeth Schwarzkopf.

London

The title of professor of neonatal paediatrics has been conferred on Dr E. O. R. Reynolds, BSc, MB, BS, DCh, MD, in respect of his post at University College Hospital Medical School.

Appointments:

Dr S. Campbell, MB, ChB, senior lecturer at the Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, to the chair of obstetrics and gynaecology at the institute from October 1.

Dr M. M. Bowie, MA, DPhil, tutor at Clare College, Cambridge, to the chair of French at Queen Mary College from October 1.

Sussex

The Peggotty Freeman Memorial Fellowship in European studies has been awarded to J. R. Thorne, an assistant teacher at Hayling County Secondary School. He will become an honorary fellow for one year from the Easter vacation.

Grants

From the Agricultural Research Council: £25,590 for three years for investigation of viosynthetic precursors and degradation products of pituitary prolactin, under Dr M. Wallis.

From the Science Research Council: £10,945 for three years for mid-brain mechanisms mediating attack and associated behaviour in the chick, under Professor R. J. Andrew; £25,155 for three years for environmentally induced and cyclical changes in electrical activity of small neurosecretory neurones, under Dr P. R. Benjamin; £16,140 for three years for elementary particle and field theory, under Professor P. J. Blin-Stoyle and Dr N. Dombey; £41,545 for three years for NMR and flow experiments on superfluid HE3, under Professor D. F. Brewer; £29,600 for radioactivity using the new facilities of the Varian E104A esr spectrometer, under Dr A. Hudson, Dr R. A. Jackson and Professor M. Lappert; £34,420 for four years for the United Kingdom contribution to the data preprocessing for the GEOS wave experiment, under Dr G. Martelli; £23,155 for four years for data handling facilities for the GEOS electrostatic wave experiment, under Dr G. Martelli; £112,300 for three years for study into the particle solid interactions, under Professor M. W. Thompson; £15,500 for two years for flexural-torsional buckling of steel beams, under Dr B. W. Young. From Stockholm International Peace Research Unit: £10,020 to study possibilities of unilaterally significant environmental modification, under Mr J. Perry Robinson.

Bradford

Dr J. Delaney, MSc (Man), DSc (Glasgow), senior lecturer in the department of biology, Southampton University, has been appointed to the chair in environmental science from August 1.

Lecturers: A. F. Hartley, BSc, French, from April 1; J. E. Lynch, MSc, marketing, from Oct 1.

A grant of £10,000 has been given by the British-American Tobacco Co to Dr H. A. Rangell, management centre, to support a mechanics selection project for two years.

Promiscuity link with cancer in women

By Our Medical Correspondent

Evidence linking some forms of cancer in women with sexual activity should be much more widely known, a London consultant radiotherapist says in a book published today.

Dr Basil Stoll argues that women of all ages should be more willing to talk and read about the risk factors that may make them susceptible to different forms of cancer.

He gives a warning that there may be a large increase in the next 20 years in the number of women with cervical cancer and says that there is convincing evidence that that type of cancer of the uterus is linked with sexual promiscuity.

The risk is higher in women whose sexual experience began at an early age and in those who have had many sexual partners. The cause seems to be a virus carried by men, and the more often a woman is exposed to the risk of infection the more likely she is to develop cancer. The frequency with which she has intercourse with a single partner does not seem to be relevant.

The book also discusses the causation and detection of other cancers such as breast tumours and gives details of methods of self-examination and of warning signs.

But Why Cancer, Sally? (William Heinemann Medical Books, £1.35).

Science report

Zoology: Hormones and super ticks

…cks that are larger and more …racious for blood than normal …ve been produced by researchers … Nairobi. Using a hormone that …uses moulting during the natural …urse of development, Dr T. R. …dhiambo and his colleagues, who …ork at the International Centre …r Insect Physiology and Ecology, …ve induced adult ticks to grow …yond their usual limit. They call …e resulting animals, which are … to 1½ cm long, super ticks, and …ink that their existence will be …use for concern among people …ontemplating the use of hormones … control ticks that spread …isease.

The tick used for the Kenyan …ork is called the eyeless tampan (*Ornithodorus moubata*), which is … widespread parasite in East …frica. Adults, one month past …hat would normally have been …eir final moulting, were given a …eal of pig's blood containing …cdysone. That is the hormone …hat causes moulting in ticks, …nsects and some other animals …ith a hard outer cuticle. (Ticks …re not themselves insects, but …elong to the Arachnida, the same group as spiders and mites.) Usually after the final moult the glands that produce ecdysone break down and disappear, and no more hormone can be produced.

At that stage ticks are fully grown and ready to start feeding on blood and then to mate, and if they are females, to lay their eggs. The ecdysone given in the blood, however, induced ticks to moult once, twice or three times more, and thus to grow further. Some reached nine times the weight of normal ticks. For some reason females were far more responsive to the hormone than males and some of them went on to mate and lay eggs. Super ticks consumed much larger meals of blood and laid many more eggs than normal ticks.

Super ticks were also produced by feeding normal adults with a substance known as ponasterone A, one of a number of so-called phytoecdysones. Those are produced in certain plants and have similar activity to the ecdysone produced by the animals themselves. Dr Odhiambo and his colleagues think it conceivable that host animals might eat plants containing phytoecdysones and have in their blood sufficient concentrations to induce moulting in the ticks that feed on them. Thus super ticks might develop in the wild. The Kenyan group has collected unusually large ticks from warthog burrows in Nairobi National Park, and is now interested to know whether warthogs eat plants containing phytoecdysones.

They also offer words of caution about the proposal that ecdysone might be used to control ticks, in the same way that hormones and chemically similar substances are being investigated as possible insecticides by virtue of their ability to disrupt bodily functions. If the consequences of such efforts with ticks was the production of super ticks, those pests might become more rather than less of a problem.

By Nature-Times News Service

Source *Nature*, 260, 318 (1976)

Latest wills

Mr John Henry William Kortwright, of Surbiton, Surrey, bank official, left £107,399 net. After personal bequests he left a quarter of the residue each to the RSPCA and the Raystede Animal Welfare Centre, Ringmer, Sussex.

Other estates include (net, before duty paid; duty not disclosed):

Cawthorne, Mr William Lucas, of Nuneaton £143,463

Crompton, Mrs Mabel, of Epsom, £134,653

Edelman, Mr Maurice, of Westminster, London, Labour MP, author and journalist £29,330

Graham-Hodgson, Lady, of Tidmarsh, Berkshire, widow of Sir Harold Graham-Hodgson, £201,469

Latest appointments

Latest appointments include:

Mr Christopher Ewart-Biggs, aged 54, Minister at the British Embassy in Paris, to be Ambassador to the Irish Republic, succeeding Sir Arthur Galsworthy, who is retiring in June.

Sir John Habakkuk, Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University, to be chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals of the Universities of the United Kingdom for 1976-77, from July, succeeding Professor Sir Arthur Armitage.

Mr Frank Field, aged 47, director of the United Nations Association of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, to be secretary-general of the World Federation of United Nations Associations.

The following to be governors of Harrow School: The Bishop of Dudley, Mr R. H. Boissier and Mr Evelyn de Rothschild.

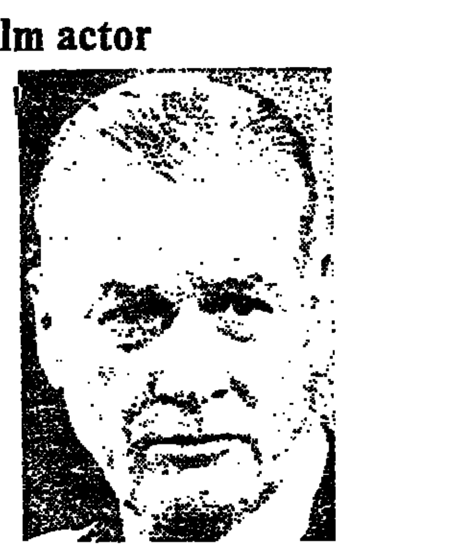
Mr Brian McMaster, aged 33, controller of opera planning at the English National Opera, to be general administrator of the Welsh National Opera and Drama Company from July.

Mr Henry Brewis, farmer, author and broadcaster, to serve on the BBC North-east Advisory Council, and Mr Mick Cooney, an AUEW shop steward at Lucas Aerospace, to serve on the North-west council.

OBITUARY

MR RICHARD ARLEN

Noted film actor



Mr Richard Arlen, a Paramount film-star of both the silent and sound eras, and an actor who for long represented the tough, hard drinking, cynical type of American screen hero, died on March 28 at the age of 76.

The veteran filmgoer will probably remember Richard Arlen best for the film which brought him fame—William Wellman's war picture *Wings* in which Arlen appeared with Gary Cooper and Clara Bow. Wellman was a former pilot as was Arlen himself, and the film was one of the last Hollywood epics of the silent twenties. Arlen's success in this picture marked the culmination of a long struggle against disappointment and ill luck in Hollywood.

Richard Arlen's real name was Van Mattimore, and he used this in his first silent pictures. He was born on September 1, 1899, at Charlottesville, Virginia, and was educated at High School in St Paul's, Minnesota, at St Thomas's College, and the University of Pennsylvania. He joined the Royal Flying Corps during the First World War and was trained in England. His ambition when the war was over, was to become a film actor, but he nearly starved before he achieved it.

The story is told that he broke his leg outside the Paramount film studio when working as a delivery boy on a motor-cycle, and he was carried into the studio hospital, and was rewarded with a walking on part as an extra. His first real chance came in *Vengeance of the Deep* in 1923, when he was still known as Van Mattimore. Within two years he was playing under his own name in Paramount pictures such as *Coast of Folly*, opposite Gloria Swanson, but it was his performance in *Wings* which really made him a star.

From then on he appeared in a large number of pictures, maintaining the image of the tough and resolute hero, and he was seen more than once in the part of either a pilot or a boxer. When the talking pictures arrived, Paramount put him into their first major spectacular musical, *Paramount on Parade*, which contained all the studio's leading players, and he also appeared in one of the first sound Westerns, *The Virginian*, with Gary Cooper. *Tiger Shark*, with Edward G. Robinson, was probably the best of his pictures in the early thirties, and in 1933 he played in a comedy, *College Humour*, with Bing Crosby.

This was something of a vintage year for him, for he showed his versatility by also appearing as the Cheshire Cat in *Alice in Wonderland*. The beginning of the Second World War saw him back in another flying picture, *Forced Landing*, and later in *Aerial Gunner*, with Chester Morris. He was now firmly typed as a rugged he-man, and since he had no pretensions to being an outstanding actor, he was happy to fill such parts. One of his later films was *The Last Time I Saw Archie*, with Robert Mitchum, which he made in 1961. Subsequent films included *The Best Man* (1964), *Apache Uprising* (1965) and he continued to return to the screen to play bit parts.

Early in his film career he married another Paramount player, Jobyna Ralston, who appeared with him in *Wings*.

PROFESSOR M. M. GILLIES

Dr C. W. Chilton writes:

Many generations of classical students at Hull, and many others in the academic world generally, will be saddened to hear of the death of Emeritus Professor M. M. Gillies who died in Hull on March 21.

Born a son of the manse in 1901 he progressed by way of Eton (where he was Captain of the School) to King's College, Cambridge. With a First in both parts of the Classical Tripos in his pocket he continued his education at Oxford, Vienna and Edinburgh, where he took his PhD. He began university teaching as an assistant lecturer at Liverpool but after a few years accepted the daunting task of founding a department of Classics at the new University College of Hull in 1928. For the next forty years Classics at Hull meant Gillies. In the post-war expansion of 1946-7 his efforts were rewarded with a great increase in his staff and a chair for himself and his time after that was devoted more and more to teaching, examining, and especially administration, culminating in six years as Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University from 1962 until his retirement in 1968. This largely accounts for the fact that after his edition of Book III of Apollonius Rhodius his published output was confined to the occasional article in specialist journals.

This is perhaps to be regretted but Gillies's reputation does not depend on publication. He will be remembered as a man who made the University of Hull his life's work and throughout ran its department of Classics as an efficient head and a harmonious colleague: no one who has ever been a member of his staff (and this includes, among many others, the present holders of the Chairs of Latin at Bristol, Leeds, and University College, London) can have anything but the kindliest memories of M.M.G.

He was unmarried and lived alone, rarely with fewer than five Siamese cats.

AIR VICE-MARSHAL VINCENT

Marshal of the RAF Sir Dermot Boyle writes:

There is little of official interest which I can add to your excellent obituary, but perhaps I may be permitted a more personal contribution.

Stanley Vincent was a flying instructor and flight commander when I was a cadet at Cranwell in 1923. One of his duties was to lecture to us on various subjects. From our point of view he was a splendid lecturer because, apart from a lively sense of humour and the automatic admiration he earned from us as someone who had taken on the great German ace, von Richthofen, in single-handed air combat and survived, he recognized that the one thing in which we were all interested was flying. He would therefore relate everything about which he lectured to the practical problems directly affecting us as hopeful pilots, frequently emphasizing a point by some personal experience.

He once told us that having done his pre-flight inspection, he took-off only to find that his elevator controls were crossed, with the result that they were operating in the opposite way to that intended—a nightmare for any pilot—but he managed to recognize and master the problem and bring the aircraft safely back to earth. Whether the lecture in question was on Aerodynamics, Engineering or Discipline was unimportant; it left a lasting, salutary and valuable lesson in the minds of his audience.

I was privileged to have him as my flying instructor. Painstaking, humorous, patient, brilliant, dedicated to the task in hand. Once the engine stopped after we had done a loop, and his subsequent actions were a model of what they should be because not only did he execute the forced landing perfectly, coupled with calm practical, instructional advice as he did so, but also he seemed to have ample time to produce a stream of illuminating if startling remarks as to what was wrong with the engine! All this was nothing more or less than we would expect from someone who in 1917 had been a Flight Commander at the Special School of Flying at Gosport. The first school in the world to train flying instructors.

I am sure that Stanley's many friends and pupils while deeply regretting his death will cherish, as I do, the memory of his personality and friendship.

BRIGADIER C. H. V. VAUGHAN

Brigadier Charles Hilary Vaughan Vaughan, DSO, DL, JP, late of the Royal Welch Fusiliers, died on March 28 at the age of 70. He was born Charles Hilary Vaughan Pritchard, but changed his name by deed poll from Pritchard to Vaughan, his mother's maiden name, on inheriting the Nannau estates in North Wales in 1956.

Educated at Sherborne and Trinity Hall, Cambridge, he joined the Royal Welch Fusiliers in 1927 and was ADC to the Governor and C-in-C Gibraltar from 1931 to 1932. In the period before the Second World War he was Adjutant of the RWF depot and went to the Staff College at Camberley. Thereafter he served throughout the war in North Africa, Italy, France, Greece and Palestine, commanding the 2nd Independent Parachute Brigade Group from 1943 to 1946. He was Commander Airborne Establishments from 1946 to 1948 and retired in 1949. He was a DL and JP for Merioneth in 1950 and High Sheriff of Merioneth from 1956 to 1958.

He married, in 1935, the Hon Mary Patricia Monck, younger sister of the 6th Viscount Monck. They had four daughters.

SGR CORRADO CAGLI

Sgr Corrado Cagli, the Italian painter, has died at the age of 66. Born in Ancona in 1910 he studied at the Rome Academy of Art. A Jew, he was forced to leave Italy in 1938 and went first to Paris and later settled in New York. In 1941 he joined the army and served as a soldier until 1945 when he returned to New York. In 1948 he returned to Rome.

As a painter he passed through a number of phases. He began by producing figurative works among which were a number of murals. Later he was influenced in turn by Picasso, the Rome Expressionists and Surrealism. After the war he became more abstract but also produced a number of *trompe l'oeil* pictures.

Brigadier Oswald Emerson Chapman, CBE, commandant School of Tank Technology, Military College of Science, 1942-46, and later director of inspection Fighting Vehicles, Ministry of Supply, died on March 28.

Lieutenant-Colonel George Ian Malcolm of Poltalloch, DL, JP, has died at the age of 72. He was 18th Laird and Chief of the Clan. He was a Deputy Lieutenant for Argyll in 1946 and a JP in 1949. He was Vice-Lieutenant of the county in 1953.

Stock Exchange Prices

Trading at a trickle

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Mar 22. Dealings End, Apr 2. § Contango Day, Apr 5. Settlement Day, Apr 13

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

BRITISH FUNDS

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN

LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Investment Dollar Premium

FOREIGN STOCKS

DOLLAR STOCKS

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS

BREWERIES AND DISTILLERIES

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL

A—B

C—E

F—H

I—L

M—N

O—S

T—Z

INSURANCE

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MINES

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

OIL

PROPERTY

RUBBER

TEA

MISCELLANEOUS

THE TIMES SHARE INDICES

Studies for nuclear ship started

By Peter Hill
Industrial Correspondent

Preliminary studies for the construction of a nuclear merchant ship are being undertaken by the Ship and Marine Technology Requirements Board.

These are among some of the most important projects being undertaken by the organization as part of its continuing shipbuilding research and development work. The studies were initiated last April by the Department of Industry, when it published its second detailed report on prospects for nuclear merchant ship construction.

According to Mr Nigel Broackes, the board's chairman, the studies now being undertaken are designed to assist in the assessment of the prospects for nuclear merchant ships on a commercial scale, and he described them in the board's annual report as being of "considerable importance".

The board's research activities embrace shipbuilding, ship operation and marine technology, and last year the organization had a budget of about £6m.

Mr Broackes said in the report, which was published yesterday, that the board had sought to maintain a particular emphasis on technology transfer.

France wants to discuss 'snake' changes at Community summit

Brussels, March 29.—M Giscard d'Estaing, the French President, has reportedly submitted to other European Community leaders France's ideas on improving Community monetary cooperation, including adjustments to the snake, the joint floating block.

The document, it is understood, is to be discussed when Community leaders meet at a summit in Luxembourg on Thursday and Friday. Sources said the document is highly confidential at this stage, but that it may be published at the start of the summit.

Other sources claiming some knowledge of the Giscard d'Estaing ideas submitted, say the French President broadly suggests that the snake, now linking the German, Dutch, Belgian, Danish and Luxembourg currencies, should aim to bring in the French franc, the British and Irish pounds and Italian lira.

In order to allow such an expansion of the snake, the French President reportedly suggests an adjustment of snake mechanisms and of current exchange rates of snake members. Currencies in the snake can move against each other within a narrow band of 2.25 per cent. If any snake currency is 2.25 per cent away from the leader, there has to be a central bank support at either floor or ceiling points.

The Giscard d'Estaing ideas on adjusting the snake with the aim of allowing later widening of the monetary arrangement, was apparently only part of a series of proposals the French President had submitted to other EC leaders on tackling current monetary and economic problems in the Community.

He has already notified the Luxembourg Prime Minister, M Gaston Thorn, who is president of the EC Council, of France's interests in having urgent monetary and economic problems discussed at the forthcoming summit.

EC sources said they don't expect any dramatic decisions from the summit meeting, but anticipate that it may produce some new momentum for preparations of a July EC summit in Brussels, where actual decisions could be taken.

There was no confirmation available in Brussels from EC authorities of the reported French monetary and economic move.

Bonn coolness: West German government circles appeared cool toward the reported French suggestions for modifying the snake.

Commenting on the reports that France wants to discuss snake changes, government sources said Germany feels that any significant widening of the 4.5 per cent fluctuation limit within the snake would limit the usefulness of the block arrangement.

The sources stressed that Germany's mid-March offer to revalue the mark in order to keep France within the snake ceased to exist when France left the block. They see a certain "conflict" between France's past advocacy of fixed but adjustable rates and its reported desire to weaken ties among snake currencies.

Aramco's entitlement may top 6m barrels a day

New York, March 29.—When Saudi Arabia takes 100 per cent ownership of Aramco according to the terms reached in the recent Florida meeting with the four United States partners, Aramco's entitlement will be considerably more the 6 million barrels daily being widely reported, *Petroleum Intelligence Weekly* says it can state "authoritatively".

The exact level agreed upon is not being divulged, *PIW* says. But the four American companies—Exxon, Texaco, Standard Oil of California and Mobil Oil—will be obliged to lift roughly the same volume of oil they are now taking.

In the first two months of this year, Aramco produced an average 7.5 million barrels daily, most of which was lifted by the four United States companies.

PIW says Saudi Arabia will pay Aramco a little more than $1,500m (about £750m) for its remaining 40 per cent ownership of the producing assets. The effective date of the takeover has not been set, *PIW* says.

Other terms of the agreement reported by *PIW* include:

Aramco partners will buy their oil at the full market price set by the Saudi government but will receive the same discounts granted to any third party.

The Saudi government will pay Aramco a service fee for running its oil operation, consisting of a basic operating fee of about 15 cents a barrel and exploration fee of abour 6 cents. This fee will be computed net after Saudi taxes and paid on total Aramco production.

The supply entitlements include long-term purchase obligations, and the American companies will be subject to penalties if they cannot meet the obligations because of price or market conditions.

This new operating agreement is to extend for the remaining life o ftbe present concession, to 1999, and will be limited to the present concessionary area.

The companies will continue to put up their own capital for exploration in the concession area. The companies will lose their money on unsuccessful exploration, but, for successful ones will receive, in addition to the 6 cents a barrel fee, crude supply entitlements proportionate to the new reserves discovered.

PIY also reports that Saudi Arabia's state-owned oil company Petromin is now willing to "roll over" its 1973 direct-sale crude oil contracts for three more years with volumes and contract terms unchanged.

It was reported from Algiers that Angola was considering joining the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries. Mr Lopo do Nascimento, the Angolan Premier, said in an interview that his government already had had bilateral contacts with members of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries on the subject.—AP-Dow Jones.

Roger Vielvoye writes: Angolans may find it difficult to gain admission to the exclusive oil exporters' club. Several applications from small oil producers have been rejected, and in future new members will have to prove that oil is their principal source of revenue.

Kaiser plans Anglesey smelter expansion

By Edward Townsend

A 50,000-ton expansion in the annual capacity of the loss-making Anglesey Aluminium smelter in North Wales, now controlled by the Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corporation of America, is likely within the next five years.

Mr Cornell C. Maier, Kaiser's president and chief executive, said at his headquarters in Oakland, California, that despite the plant's difficulties, it was a well engineered facility with good support systems and could be expanded economically.

Mr Maier has similar plans for the company's 70,000-ton per year smelter at Voerde in Germany of which it took full control from Preussag, its German partner, last year.

Kaiser assumed a two-thirds share of Anglesey last November as a result of a decision by BICC to withdraw from the project and a desire by Rio Tinto-Zinc to reduce its 47 per cent stake.

The Anglesey and Voerde establishments are regarded as potentially the most efficient of Kaiser's aluminium reduction plants. Both have suffered, however, from difficulties in operating heavily insulated smelting pots, a Kaiser development which requires stricter than normal temperature control.

The Anglesey plant, one of three built in the United Kingdom at the end of the 1960s with the aid of government grants and contracts for cheap power supplies, has also had problems in training a workforce drawn largely from a fishing and farming community.

It has consistently lost money—£13m in the first four years—and according to Mr Maier still has "a way to go to reach the break even point". Labour turnover was still a problem, but morale was good and "definite improvements" were being achieved in operations.

Kaiser, which ranks behind Alcoa and Alcan in the league of the big American aluminium producers, has been able through the recent restructurings to increase its Euopean capacity at minimal cost. In fact, its net income for 1975 at $94.7m (about £47.3m) was the second highest in the company's history, and benefited from a tax credit of $13.5m (£6.8m) resulting from the two European restructurings.

Mr Maier's hopes of a 50 per cent expansion at Anglesey contrasts with Alcan UK's continued reluctance to go ahead with building additional capacity at its Lynemouth smelter in Northumberland and its decision to shelve for another year plans for a major alumina refinery in Ireland.

Kaiser considers its short term aluminium capacity needs largely met, but with a shortage of the metal predicted by the end of the decade, Mr Maier has earmarked Europe as the prime area for expansion. "We are going to be big in Europe", he said.

Honeywell in £6m fuel saving deal

By Kenneth Owen
Technology Correspondent

A £6m contract for equipment and services aimed at cutting fuel consumption in government buildings has been awarded to the commercial division of Honeywell by the Property Services Agency of the Department of the Environment.

The contract will run for three years, but fuel savings are expected to recover the contract cost in under two years.

According to Honeywell, improved heating control, if applied to all commercial and industrial buildings in the United Kingdom, could save between £50m and £100m a year. Throughout Europe, annual savings could exceed £400m.

The PSA contract includes surveying and reporting on existing heating control systems in nine regions where the agency provides maintenance, operation and other estates management services to government departments.

In a previous contract with the PSA, Honeywell had implemented its own "optimum start" control systems. By ensuring that offices, factories, schools and other buildings are heated only when occupied, fuel costs in these buildings are reduced by an average of 25 per cent.

Over 2,000 such systems have been installed during the past five years

Rockware and United Glass see price rises

Britain's two biggest glass container manufacturers, United Glass and Rockware, will be putting up prices over the next few weeks. United Glass wants about 7½ per cent. This follows three price rises throughout the industry last year totalling 32 per cent.

The industry is expecting demand for bottles and jars to increase from 42m units last year to 44m in 1976. Despite last year's decrease from the 50m units sold in 1974, three of the United Kingdom's four big container makers made record profits.

Councils for businesses

The Association of Independent Businesses is to establish regional and constituency councils to combat what Mr W. G. Poeton, treasurer, yesterday called the "danger of extinction within a generation".

The idea is for councils to have regular contacts with local MPs and parliamentary candidates so that they are made "acutely aware of the need to amend and repeal much of the legislation which is crushing the life out of independent business".

Yorkshire freight complex plan

By Michael Baily
Transport Correspondent

A proposal for Britain's biggest inland freight interchange at the junction of the M1 and M62 motorways in West Yorkshire was announced by the Wakefield Metropolitan District Council yesterday.

The council are this week completing the purchase of a £500,000, 60-acre site which they hope to see developed as a massive transport, warehousing, and servicing complex, with the help of the French Garonor group, who have carried out a similar project on the outskirts of Paris.

Although the council are thus committing themselves to the project it became clear yesterday, however, that they have neither finance nor customers for it. Garonor, who developed the £20m Paris project entirely with private sector finance, have no commitment of that kind at Wakefield.

They have formed a British subsidiary which expects to act as paid project managers. Spokesmen at a launching ceremony at the World Trade Centre in London said transport operators had expressed interest in taking space in the project, and pension funds in helping to finance it.

Neither the Department of Trade nor the strategic transport authority for the area, the West Yorkshire County Council, are involved.

Mr Jack Smart, leader of the Wakefield Council, described it as "a new local authority which treats local government as big business.

With unemployment above the national average as coal mining in the area declines, the 1,500 jobs the centre would create would undoubtedly be a big advantage. The position of the centre at the junction of the main north-south east-west motorways is also attractive, as would be the facilities offered

However, the Paris project relied heavily for its appeal on keeping heavy lorries out of the central area, and regional machinery to secure two-way loads, both factors which do not appear to exist at Wakefield. In the present state of the economy there is a big surplus of transport and storage capacity.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Forum shopping' an established principle

From Mr I. A. D. Martin

Sir, Mr Anthony Rowley, in the course of his recent article on choice of law for the dependants of victims of the DC-10 crash, states that the proportion of damages taken as fees by the attorneys under the American contingency system is "typically around 30 per cent".

I accept this use of the word "typically", but it is misleading to quote that percentage in the particular context of the DC-10 claims. In these cases attorneys have been retained on a 12 per cent fee and to keep the matter in perspective it ought to be remembered that in the majority of cases this fee is being shared between syndicates of two, if not three, American laws firms working in conjunction in the preparation of cases.

The suggestion made by Mr John Hewitt at Lloyd's quoted by Mr Rowley, to the effect that American attorneys were seducing potential claimants to the jurisdiction of the Californian court, does less than justice to English solicitors engaged in conjunction with these American attorneys in advising their clients and preparing their claims. (Here I should declare an interest as one of those solicitors). In all the cases of which I am aware, the decision to bring proceedings in the United States was taken by English solicitors without prompting from our American colleagues.

The principle of "forum shopping" to obtain the best advantage for a client is well established in other spheres—for example, admiralty litigation—and I have never seen why application of that principle should have caused surprise to the defendants in the DC-10 litigation, let alone leading them to stigmatize it as an "abuse".

Yours faithfully,
I. A. D. MARTIN,
13 Police Street,
Manchester M2 7WA.
March 22.

The dollar and inflation in Britain

From Professor G. Maynard

Sir, Mr Hoskyns (March 25) is quite right when he says that the steep rise in the price of primary products in 1972-73 was due to excess demand rather than to cartel action (with the obvious exception of oil), but it does not follow all that clearly that pursuance of Keynesian policies in the UK or abroad was mainly responsible.

Although there were a number of other factors operating, the rise was due to a synchronized industrial boom in the major industrial countries of the West. This was preceded by, and probably caused by, a vast expansion of international reserve assets and money supply and a consequent sharp fall in world interest rates.

To my mind therefore the monetarist explanation of the acceleration of world inflation may be broadly correct. But it is by no means clear that Keynesian expansionist policies were at the root of the monetary expansion. More likely it was the result of the long delayed devaluation of the US dollar against other major currencies (apart from sterling and consequent massive speculation against this currency in 1971-72 which central banks were prepared to finance.

It can hardly be thought that a refusal of central banks to adjust their currencies in the face of international disequilibrium would have had the support of Keynes himself, if he had been alive, or was a necessary part of Keynesian expansionist policies.

As far as the UK is concerned, although UK import prices in sterling were affected by sterling devaluation, the major factor was surely the rise in the foreign exchange price of our imports (ie, it was an exogeneous factor as far as the UK was concerned) which also worsened the country's real terms of trade.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY MAYNARD,
Professor of Economics,
Department of Economics,
University of Reading,
Whiteknights,
Reading, RG6 2AA.
March 26.

Consumer's right to choose best value

From Mr N. A. Bilitch

Sir, A letter to you (March 26) prompts me to inquire whether the writer, Dr P. W. Foster, is writing to express a personal view, or the view of a Dr P. W. Foster who is the managing director of a textile company (part of a large United Kingdom textile group), who happens to be writing from the former's town of residence—Tiverton, Devon.

If the latter, the sentiments expressed in Dr. P. W. Foster's letter are understandable; if both Dr Fosters are, in fact, the same person there is no mystery, the special pleading on behalf of United Kingdom textile manufacturers being the natural reaction when a producer defends a vested interest against consumers exercising their right to choose from those who would supply them with goods at the lowest price.

Dr Foster's letter is a smoke-screen of emotive platitudes, peppered with the usual stock *non-sequiturs*, which protectionists surround themselves with, as they persuade Governments to erect tariff and other restrictionist devices against consumers.

A random selection from Dr Foster's letter includes: "unpleasant things like dumping". Unpleasant to whom? British shoppers looking for a bargain? Why does the "price advantage" have to be "fully passed on"? Either the United Kingdom consumer is being sold goods at prices which are lower than what United Kingdom manufacturers are able to offer, or they are not. "Large profits are being made in the high streets of Great Britain...", explodes Dr Foster. Would he have them make, like United Kingdom car manufacturers, nationalized industries, etc, large losses for the long-suffering consumer (tax payer) to have to underwrite with increased taxation? Printing more money is no panacea.

In Dr Foster's world, competitors are "unprincipled" and retailers are driven by "the profit motive to seek out distress sales". In other words, they buy cheap, and are able to sell cheap. Who is Dr Foster speaking for? The *Tribune* Group of the ultra-left Socialists, or for consumers of a competitive free enterprise economy?

Come off it Dr Foster! All production is for consumption, not a state-regulated institution for providing relief to inefficient domestic producers. At least I thought so until the present (and previous) Government started pouring vast quantities of tax payers' money into car manufacturing, motor cycle production, textiles, shipping, and any other sector deemed to carry political clout, such as those other perennial grumblers, the farmers.

Yours faithfully,
N. A. BILITCH,
6 Rusholme Road,
Putney, SW15.
March 26.

Words—where advice would be welcome

From Mr A. J. Barnett

Sir, The Equal Opportunities Commission this week issued "interim guidance" on terminology which is not approved for staff advertising.

Non-approved words include "manager", "engineer" and "accountant". Use of these words, in the absence of a unisex qualification, appears to run the prospective employer foul of the law.

Those who have to cope with the realities of business life may well not have time to redesignate generic titles which have worked well for centuries without any intended sexual bias. Indeed as a practising accountant, it appears to me that one has either to add fresh words to the dictionary or try to change the name of an established profession. Advice would be most welcome.

Yours truly,
A. J. BARNETT,
4/6 George Street,
Richmond, Surrey,
TW9 1HD.
March 25.

Need for an investigation into prices of lamp bulbs

From Mr J. VandenBurg

Sir, Today you reported "Lampmakers seek inquiry on Imports". It is well known that, for many years, the large manufacturers of bulbs have operated a price ring, which kept prices unnecessarily high.

The company which employs me had for many years exported bulbs mainly to British Dominions. These were purchased from smaller British companies independent of the ring at prices a mere fraction of the ring prices.

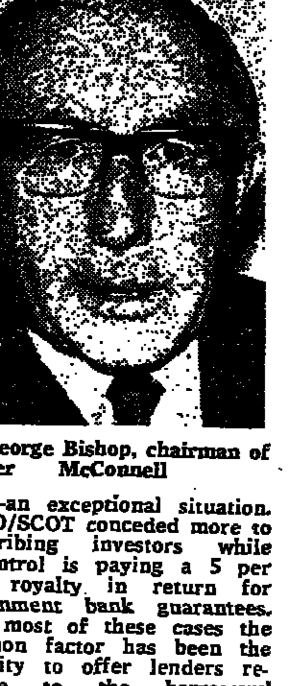
In recent years these independent companies have been taken over by the larger companies inside the ring. As a result prices are now sky high and we are no longer able to export to our previous customers. It is not surprising that overseas manufacturers are now able to sell here at very competitive prices.

The Department of Trade should investigate how this position arose rather than restrict imports of bulbs, which result in lower prices for British motorists, though they may have the effect of reducing the super profits of monopoly rings.

Yours faithfully,
J. VANDENBURG,
1 Monkville Avenue,
London, NW11 0AH.
March 29.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Stone-Platt's stand on inflation accounting



Sir George Bishop, chairman of Booker McConnell

lard on the heels of the first ll set of current cost accounts om Bernard Wardle, we now ave Stone-Platt flying directly the face of The Stock Exiange's request for companies give greater guidance on the npact of inflation on their counts pending the adoption f a university standard on flation accounting.

"It would not assist shareolders to publish inflationdjusted figures at this stage", he board considers—though it oes throw in a property realuation in passing. And the oard's view is not one put to areholders alone. SP has also ritten to The Stock Exchange politely of course—telling it e same thing.

The company rests its case the argument that in askg companies to use one of ethods for presenting inflam adjustments it is more ely to confuse investors than lp them, even leading them make wrong investment decins.

Albeit that SP is not an vious beneficiary of inflation counting, that should not be ken as a reason for its stance. is true, however, that SP is from excited about the iole concept of inflation counting. It belongs to the iool that would argue that at basically matters in a riod of exceptionally high flation is the ability of manement to make adequate sessment of cash flow and icing. Managements that can this are well on the way survival. Managements that mot would probably find lation accounting beyond n anyway.

SP is obviously not alone in attitude, though that has not vented other companies m attempting to produce re detailed figuring for reholders. However, coment managements may be at ng inflation, it still seems e that shareholders have a it to be given some reasonr precise figures on the act of inflation on what are r all their assets.

s for SP itself there must a question of whether or competitive pressures have act allowed it to produce the l of pricing necessary to ater inflation. While the ip's outstanding orders e only slightly down at 1,000,000. orders on the texmachinery side were n from £109,000,000 to 000,000. There are already s that the order recession oming off the bottom, while fall in sterling is providing additional cushion on the sting workload and Scragg is ected to make a reasonable tribution this year. Nonethe- the yield of 4½ per cent st continue to be a constraint the shares at 106p.

ounts: 1975 (1974)
italization £42.6m
assets £43.9m (£31.7m)
rowings £11.3m (£8.10m)
tax profit £11.1m (£8.02m)
nings per share 17.8p (16.1p).

arterhouse

orth Sea genuity

rterhouse's plan for an itutional investment syndi- to buy out existing equity rests from the smaller ners in proven N Sea oil ds could find support on sides even though developt finance has hardly been hort supply this year.

ll of the smaller groups have managed to sew up ncing packages in recent ths have given something y in return. Admittedly idental/Thomson gave away tively little to the banks the Claymore field but Piper to put behind that—an exceptional situation. LSMO/SCOT conceded more to subscribing investors while Tricentrol is paying a 5 per cent royalty in return for government bank guarantees.

In most of these cases the common factor has been the inability to offer lenders recourse to the borrowers' balance sheet. However, Charterhouse's idea is that institutions joining the investment syndicate could offer ample security relative to the N Sea development commitment, through the medium of partly paid loan stock.

The uncalled portion would constitute a debt owed to the companies in which the syndicate would invest. and would thus be similar to a guarantee for bank finance that would be required.

Charterhouse reckons that this should give the syndicate a margin to negotiate purchases on terms more attractive to N Sea companies than, say, those offered by the Government to Burmah, and yet still leave participating gross fund institutions with a DCF rate of return of at least 20 per cent over the life of a field.

Booker McConnell

The Guyanese problem

With the £750,000 loss which Booker McConnell made after tax on its Guyana sugar operations pushing the agricultural division into the red at the attributable level by £12,000 in 1975 (in the preceding year it made a profit of £1.65m), there is inevitably a temptation to think that the company will be well rid of the interests which the Guyana government is now negotiating to acquire.

But much of the growth in the overseas shopkeeping and manufacturing division (which contributed an attributable £1.52m as against £1.17m) came from Bookers Stores in Guyana; moreover the £19.5m net worth of the Guyanese companies at end-'74 compares with end-'75 shareholders' funds of £46m

That said, however, these latest figures certainly establish that the group ex-Guyana is capable of growth: with United Kingdom profits up from £2.56m to £4.7m post-tax. In particular the engineering companies, which turned in an attributable £1.86m as against £182,000, are still performing strongly, health and food manufacturing has more to come, and the late Miss Christie keeps the contribution from artists' services wafting upwards. A 6.3 per cent yield on the shares at 140p would apear sufficiently to discount the Guyanese uncertainties.

Final: 1975 (1974)
Capitalization £38.7m
Sales £374m (£285.4m)
Pre-tax profits £16.13m (£13.95m)
Earnings per share 21.34p (20.08p)
Dividend gross 8.86p (8.06p)

English Property Corp

A way into North America

English Property Corporation's reported pre-tax profit of £4.3m in the year to the end of October, 1975, excludes £20.9m of development outgoings, £2.7m more than in 1974. And so on a comparable basis the group's revenue deficit increased from £13.4m to £16.7m last year.

EPC's balance sheet provides more encouraging news. The £547.7m investment portfolio is considered fairly valued while the £181.6m of development properties are believed to be worth only £12m less than book value, a marginal decline which is not incorporated into the accounts. Property sales raised £40m in the year, and the £15.4m proceeds from last autumn's unpopular rights issue helped ease the United Kingdom short-term debt position, and £65m of further sales since the year-end will have lightened the borrowing load. But EPC's debt remains massive, topping £600m last year. And the annual interest bill of £55m will cream off much, if not all, of revenue benefits due as the United Kingdom and European development programme comes to an end.

EPC's two thirds interest in the Canadian based Trizec Corporation does, however, set it apart from the rest of the heavily borrowed United Kingdom property developers. As deconsolidated accounts show Trizec is the biggest element in EPC.

Trizec's portfolio (which is understated in terms of EPC's because of its earlier valuation date and exchange rate movements since the year-end) is £50m larger than its parent's, at £390m. And it is carrying an increasingly heavier proportion of the group's overall debt, up to £370m against the parent's £234m in October. On the development front, too, Trizec has taken the lead as the United Kingdom and European operations are run down.

It will be a number of years before the deficits incurred in funding United Kingdom and European developments are counter-balanced by new lettings and reversionary rental growth. And at 54p, yielding 6.5 per cent, the shares now seem to have come far enough from last year's unrealistically depressed levels.

Accounts: 1974-75 (1973-74)
Capitalization £32.1m
Net assets £126.14m (£132.95m)
Borrowings £599.4m (£530.7m)
Pre-tax profit *£4.26m (£4.82m)
Earnings per share 1.3p (1.7p)
**Before a £20.9m transfer from reserves (£18.2m in 1974).*

February's figures from the Inland Revenue emphasize how successful it has been in bullying companies into prompt payment of their tax bills. More significantly, they demonstrate how much the revenues from corporation tax are dwindling as a result of the various tax deferment measures.

In January the corporation tax take was £737m, the biggest ever for a single month. But in February, traditionally the second heaviest month for tax payments, revenue dropped to only £105m

So it is clear that the interest payments penalties imposed this year for the first time on late tax payments have worked. Taking January and February together, however, the revenues have fallen well below the level in the same two months of both 1975 and 1974. In 1974, the two months realized £1,190m. Last year that fell to £1,057m and this year it is down to £842m.

Limits of a voluntary incomes policy

Discussion of the next phase of the social contract and incomes policy will be based on people's perceptions of the present situation and their views of what will happen in the future with and without an incomes policy.

Many trade unionists are well experienced in assessing probable economic developments. They are able to form a view as to what might happen to the level of unemployment and economic growth if there is no second phase and the Chancellor believes he must continue to place a high priority on reducing inflation.

At the same time they are bargainers and will press for the best deal they can get for their members. But governments, too, have learned to become bargainers in their dealings with unions.

We are probably in a situation where there is more realism and understanding of the practical room for manoeuvre in the choice of alternative policies than ever before. Experiences of previous incomes policies and of government attempts to introduce industrial relations reforms have left their mark on all parties to the debates.

So far the social contract has been between the TUC and government with the CBI very much on the sidelines. Because the unions developed the policy they have had the major responsibility for ensuring that it is observed. This is why, so far as can be judged, the present policy is successful.

While it may well be the case that some groups would not have obtained £6 in the absence of the policy, there are other groups which have settled for less than £6 and some who very probably could and would have got more. My own judgment is that without the present policy both the rate of increase in money wages and the rate of inflation would be higher, the depreciation of sterling greater and the incidence and extent of industrial disputes increased.

But that is a judgment. It can be neither proved nor disproved by statistical exercises. Other judgments can arrive at different conclusions.

It is because I believe that the present policy is working and producing advantages that outweigh the disadvantages, as well as my deep and firm conviction that an incomes policy is both economically necessary and socially desirable, that I hope that there will be a next stage this autumn.

The form and content of any incomes policy rest on the decision whether new institutions are to be created to implement it, or whether it is to be based on voluntary acceptance and observance by the parties to collective bargaining, operating in their usual ways but inside the framework of moral obligation imposed by the policy.

Price control measures designed to support the voluntary observance, such as the present provisions for disallowing the whole of the wage increase for price increase purposes if the settlement exceeds that provided by the policy, do not change the institutions of collective bargaining.

Similarly, the government commitment to observe the policy in the public sector does not interfere with the normal institutions of collective bargaining with the exception of the freezing of the pay research unit approach for the Civil Service.

It seems unlikely that the unions will be willing to accept the creation of a body to act as overseer or implementer of the next phase of incomes policy. This would be seen as too great an interference with free collective bargaining.

If this is so, it is perhaps the most single crucial decision affecting the content of the next phase.

For, if the next phase follows the pattern of the present one and there is some limit placed on pay increases but it is left to the parties to bargaining to follow the rules for themselves with some minimum vetting for price control purposes, then the policy must be a very simple one. Those who are genuinely committed to observing the policy must know what is expected of them and it must be easy for them and others to know whether they are following or breaching the policy.

This is why the present flat rate £6 is so well suited to a voluntary policy. The rule is simple and clear.

Even an equally simple uniform percentage rule of, say, 6 per cent, with possibly some cut-off point for higher pay levels, would not be as easy to implement. There would be many occasions when genuine disputes could arise as to the base on which the percentage figure was to apply.

Nevertheless, there will be very strong pressures for the introduction of some percentage element in order to avoid any further compression of differentials and relativities in percentage terms. A number of unions will also point out that their members' standards of living are being reduced by more than the average rate, because the flat rate cash approach gives them a lower percentage increase.

As with most things, slow economic growth makes solutions much more difficult. Redistribution is easier in high growth situations because it may not be necessary to reduce some people's incomes in order to increase those of others. Over the next year of policy this is unlikely to be possible to any significant extent and the real choice may well be that of deciding who makes what sacrifice in order that others can have some improvement.

Differentials and relativities will loom large in the preparatory discussions for the next stage. To a great extent what is feasible here depends on what people believe is fair. A growing number of unions appear to be concluding that differentials and relativities cannot or should not be much reduced in the near future, or even that some of them should be widened a little.

Top management is increasingly expressing the view that there is great need to widen differentials at the executive and managerial level and is demanding at least the raising of the £8,500 cut-off point.

The policymaker should seek to produce policies which operate within the margin of opportunity for change which is actually open to him. In pay questions these margins are much influenced by perceptions of fairness. If people believe that certain changes are unfair they will reject them, and so the question of what is acceptable, and to whom, becomes of major importance.

Because of this the next phase ought to have a percentage limit. It is not what I would myself prefer, but is the approach most likely to prove acceptable.

If it were possible to establish some machinery for effectively overseeing and implementing the next phase then some combination of flat-rate and percentage limit would be preferable. A purely voluntary policy resting for its main support on the voluntary observance of the rules of the game by the bargaining parties just cannot cope with rules that are too complicated, or which provide too many possibilities for genuine differences of opinion, or bargaining opportunities, about what the rules mean in particular situations.

Unless the limits are such that very few settlements are actually constrained by them, there will be many occasions when pressures are exerted for increases beyond the limit. There is then need for a body which can say what the rules are and how they should be applied in specific instances. The Department of Employment does not really have the resources to do this. The Price Commission may be required in effect to do so *ex postfacto*, but this is probably too late.

The TUC could set up the appropriate machinery, but its experiences of vetting wage claims around 1967 does not make this proposition a particularly attractive one for it, although it is in many ways a desirable one. Unions support best those things which they have themselves determined or agreed.

The consequence of continuing with the present voluntary method with no adequate body of overseers, then, is that there should be no exception clauses to deal with special circumstances and no flexibility. Again, it is difficult to accommodate additional payments to encourage productivity in the absence of any means of checking validity.

But fears of statutory intervention in collective bargaining loom large among the trade unions. Government may well decide not to face the extremely difficult job of persuading unions and employers to accept some new body and set of rules and so opt for a continuation of the present approach, simplicity with all its warts.

'The consequence of continuing with the present voluntary method, with no adequate body of overseers, is that there should be no exception clauses to deal with special circumstances, and no flexibility'

Whether the TUC will in fact continue to support any form of incomes policy is not yet absolutely clear. While the present Government has delivered on its side of the social contract, the present level of unemployment is seen by many trade unionists as so intolerable that any acceptance of further wage restraint would be rejected.

The question hinges on whether it is believed that in the absence of an incomes policy the Chancellor might feel compelled to introduce economic measures which might lead to even higher unemployment. If government is denied access to one of the desired policy options—incomes policy—it may be faced with the choice of a less desirable option of traditional demand management measures.

The time to consider the arithmetic of the next phase is after the Chancellor's proposals are known and there is a clearer view of the state of the economy.

The role of the Chancellor is also crucial in the impact his Budget can have on trade union attitudes. Tax concessions to the lower income groups can have similar effects on the redistribution of real disposable income as flat-rate cash increases, without there being the same effects on differentials and relativities in gross pay.

At the same time, because these improvements are obtained by budgetary measures, even though on the urging of the TUC, trade unions do not stand to receive the same credit for them from their members as they would from a wage increase which had similar effects. Nor do they receive the criticisms from higher paid members in the same way as they do with a flat-rate cash limit.

Without some tax concessions from the Chancellor it is very difficult to see any form of second phase incomes policy having any chance of acceptance. It is also important to emphasize that even with tax concessions there will be some groups who will press (sometimes with great vigour) for larger pay increases next year.

In brief, what I think might happen is a move to a percentage pay limit which will be lower than the equivalent of the existing £6. The £8,500 cut-off point might be raised to £10,000. There may even be some provisions for larger pay increases on productivity grounds, but these will prove very difficult to implement in a way which is generally accepted by others as fair.

To obtain TUC support for this package the Chancellor will be expected to produce a redistributory Budget and persuade unions that unemployment will turn out to be significantly higher without a continuation of wage restraint. This will not be easy.

There is great need for increased investment if future employment and growth prospects are not to be seriously jeopardized. Given the usual methods of financing investment in this country this would require an increase in retained profits. This in turn would require some further easing of the Price Code or reduction in company taxation.

If additional price increases are allowed trade unions can be expected to react adversely on two grounds. First, there will be a redistribution of income from pay to profits, and, through investment, to capital appreciation for shareholders. Secondly, there will be additional price rises which will aggravate the decline in real living standards that might well accompany the next phase. This decline is probable whether there is or is not agreement on wage restraint; only the methods of obtaining it will differ.

An alternative approach could be to change the method of financing investment and inject public funds in return for stakes in equity. It is then a matter of political judgment whether this change would in fact lead to sufficient investment in growth areas in the private sector taking place quickly enough, and whether the effect on confidence, both at home and abroad, might be such as to worsen the situation overall.

A different option would be to establish capital-sharing schemes whereby the ownership of increased assets resulting from the increased investment was shared by all employees. This would avoid the usual dilemma that government measures to increase investment in the private sector lead to an accumulation of assets by those already owning equity shares.

Such a scheme would, however, unfortunately take some time to introduce and so is not a likely feature of the next phase, but it is one that might be considered for the future.

Derek Robinson

The author was deputy chairman of the Pay Board, 1973-74. He is a Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford, and chairman of the Social Science Research Council, but he here writes in his personal capacity.

Rivalries put the Andean 'six' under stress

Much doubt is being expressed about whether the Andean Pact can survive in its present form as the Commission of Cartagena, the decision-making body of the group of six countries, meets in Lima. A new board has been chosen, formed by representatives of Venezuela, Ecuador and Peru.

At the turn of the year the four most developed countries of the pact, Chile, Peru, Colombia and Venezuela, should all have lowered their external tariffs on a wide range of goods. The two weaker members, Ecuador and Bolivia, who are being given preferential treatment to help their economies catch up with the other four, should also have been given greater access to the markets of the others for some manufactures. The key agreement for the allocation of the motor industry should also have been finalized and signed.

It has been proposed by four of the nations that the tariff changes should be postponed for 18 months, while Chile and Colombia are both eager for the tariff reductions within the pact to come into effect as soon as possible.

It is widely felt that the timetable for tariff changes, and the agreement of complicated and controversial programmes like that for the motor industry, have been too ambitious and will have to be made more flexible if they are to work. The underlying and encouraging base of the pact is that none of the nations of the six has an internal market large enough, or with enough purchasing power, to warrant developing a comprehensive industrialization programme of its own.

It is planned in the motor industry, for example, that up to 90 per cent of all parts should be eventually manufactured within the countries of the six by 1985, instead of the 25-30 per cent as at present.

The problem is, and the motor industry illustrates the point fully, that each country wants a large share of the cake, and no country can agree with another's criteria for allocation.

Production based on the proportion of population of each country would benefit Colombia and Peru to the detriment of Venezuela, and this is the main cause of the present dispute.

The economies of all six nations, except Venezuela, are under intense pressure at the moment owing to a cutback in world demand for their raw materials. The mineral exports of Chile, Peru and Bolivia have all been reduced, while three of the countries of the region have to import most of their oil and all have to pay for the machinery for their industrialization plans and consequently their balance of payments are under severe stress.

None the less the pact could play a vital role in the future. The prospect of being able to sell in all the countries of the six, with its market of 75 millions, is an added incentive to the pact's long-term growth.

What is required, and will probably shortly be forthcoming, is a new political impetus by the leaders of the six countries, now functioning fairly well at the technical level. Despite the big ideological differences between them, even greater now than when it was established, it is probable that the pact will shortly regain its earlier rate of growth.

As it advances, the unique integration process will make each country gradually more interdependent and complementary with its co-members.

Patrick Knight

Business Diary: Methven parting shot? • Enter CIBS

n Methven, the Directoreral of Fair Trading, is ected to warn the advertisindustry against comency when he makes his appearance before it in his ent capacity tomorrow. He ked advertisers and cies into tightening up r trading practices with hing criticisms at the ertising Association's ual conference in May. 4.

nder the threat of legisla- most of the reforms he mmended then have been oduced "voluntarily" by , including a levy on advertments to give a measure of ncial independence to a er vetting system.

he industry's code of advertng practice has been fairly ensively publicized. Special regulations have been ught in for drink and acco.

he question advertising dits are asking themselves whether all this has been ugh to satisfy both Methven l Mrs Shirley Williams, the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, who was his co-critic at the 1974 conference.

They are not likely to get a very reassuring answer. Methven is known to have reservations about the "wholeheartedness" of the reforms. He will no doubt pass on his feelings in his address to Advertising Association members after their 50th annual general meeting tomorrow.

Having worked closely with him during the intervening period, advertisers at least feel they know how Methven works. The same cannot be said for his successor, since he or she is as yet unnamed. Mrs Williams, whose responsibility it is personally to select the OFT's new Director-General, is still wading through nearly 200 applications which advertisements for the £16,000 a year job brought in.

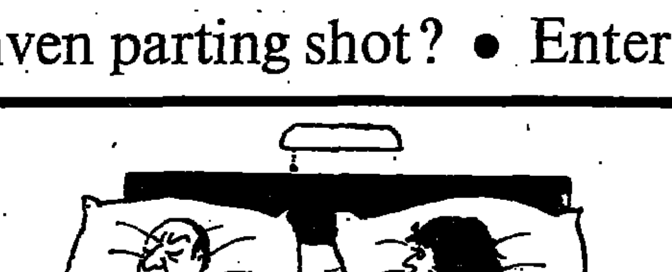
According to the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection a short-list has not yet been drawn up.

Nevertheless, a decision needs to be made fairly soon, for Methven has only two months to go at the OFT before moving on to take up the director generalship of the Confederation of British Industry.

hn Methven.

Chartered

As expected the Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers has finally been granted a Royal Charter and will now be known as the Chartered Institution of Building Services. It is an event that could well make its impression on the current politicking in the engineering profession.



"Yes, but the management consultants claim that our skeleton staff is grossly overmanned."

As Bernard Hodges, the secretary of the newly honoured institution, points out, the latest rules of the Council of Engineering Institutions—the chartered engineers' club—look like excluding it from joining CEI.

As Hodges reads it there may not be enough chartered building services technologists (their new title) of a sufficiently high academic level to meet CEI criteria. Yet Hodges reckons that the academic mix in the CIBS is probably the same as in the 15 institutions already in the CEI.

"Why should all our members have to meet 1974 criteria? We've been applying university 'first' standard since then ourselves anyway", Hodges says.

The CEI's present members, who rightly have been trying to raise standards over the years, tend to take the view that a line has to be drawn somewhere, even though it might be bad luck on newcomers who do not get under the wire.

Against that a lot of Whitehall opinion would like to see the profession properly unified. If the CEI, at present debating its own reorganization and rules, wants to be seen to be that unifying influence then it looks as if there is a lot to be said for finding a formula to cope with the sort of problem the CIBS presents.

On the other hand the CEI's present compromise proposals on reorganization stamp on the idea of free elections by individual engineers.

Hodges merely says that the CIBS has always wanted an organization representing engineers and not simply acting for institutions. But it is a fair guess that the CIBS would be reformist inside the CEI—if it gets in.

Pint sized

Apart from politics, the easiest way to provoke an argument in a strange pub is to compare the merits of the various brews and to suggest where to go for the "best beer". Yesterday the judges at Brewex '76, the exhibition for the brewing, bottling and soft drinks industry at Earls Court, caused not so much surprise as concerned consultation of reference books when their decisions were announced.

The best British cask-conditioned draught was brewed by the Felinfoel Brewery Co of Llanelli, a minnow of the industry and one of 177 entrants, while the best British bottled beer came from the Ann Street Brewery Co in St Helier, Jersey, also no giant.

It was in the competition for the best bottled lager that the results caused the most surprise. If that is your tipple the judges' decision suggests you should emigrate not to Europe or Australia but to Mauritius or Togo. Winner out of 104 entries was the Mauritius Breweries Ltd, the only producer on the island in the Indian Ocean where the head brewer is an exiled Briton, R. S. (Dick) Burgoyne-Johnson. Second was the Brasserie Du Benin SABP of Togo.

Neither brewery was represented in person at yesterday's announcement and telegrams were sent giving the good news. The big European brewers were hardly worried, though. They tend to avoid such competitions and rely on the proof of their sales figures to reinforce their belief that they are supplying what the customer wants.

Boating enthusiasts should note that the nautical mile and the knot are among imperial units of measure due to vanish by December, 1977, if the metrication programme goes according to schedule. But the fathom remains, at least for the time being—there are no plans to abolish it in the metrication timetable. Fathom that one out.

'Coral' language evaluation in US

Computer news

The Coral 66 high-level computer language, adopted by the Ministry of Defence for "real-time" applications and also used in industry, is being evaluated by the United States Department of Defence.

On Friday last, on the occasion of a visit by the Queen to the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment, Malvern, the availability of the language on the Advanced Research Projects Agency network (Arpanet) in the United States was signalled by a message sent by the Queen from the GEC 4080 computer at the establishment.

The RSRE computer is connected into the ARPA network via a "gateway" computer, a PDP 9, at University College London. Software for this connexion was written at the Department of Physics at Warwick University and at the Royal Signals and Radar Establishment.

This software provides multi-access facilities suitable for users of high-level computer languages. Several Arpanet users can use the computer simultaneously, with local users and external users connected via a direct telephone line.

Implementation of the ARPA network began in 1969 as a United States Department of Defence operation. It is designed to enable different types of computers at various research centres to be interconnected, and uses the message-switching technique.

Its objectives are to permit resource sharing (of data and programs) between points on the network; develop reliable and economic digital communications; and make possible broad access to unique and powerful facilities which may be economic only when widely shared.

GE network expands

General Electric (USA) has decided to expand its international computer timesharing service, known as Mark 3 network information service, with the addition of a third main centre near Amsterdam in The Netherlands.

In the United Kingdom, the service is marketed by Honeywell Information Systems. The new European centre will be equipped with three Honeywell 6080 computers; similar equipment (of GE origin) are installed in the two existing centres in Cleveland, Ohio and Rockville, Maryland.

The new centre should come into operation early in 1977. It will represent an investment of about $17m (about £8.5m).

Mr Steve Jerritts, managing director of Honeywell Information Systems in the United Kingdom and corporate vice-president responsible for Honeywell's network information services, said that the new centre would not be dedicated to serving European customers alone. It would provide power also back to the United States and to other countries in the network.

On-line 2903

A software package designed to enable users of ICL 2903 small computers to operate on-line via remote terminals has been introduced by Computer Analysts & Programmers (CAP), London.

Known as TP-2903, the package is intended for users who wish to obtain the benefits of on-line systems without the practical problems which otherwise would have to be faced.

A range of options is offered, from a basic system to a full package with development tools for the customer's programmers. The programs the customer writes to run under TP-2903 are simple batch programs in the Cobol language.

Minimum, "typical" and maximum purchase prices are quoted by CAP as £2,850, about £5,000 and £7,500 respectively.

Energy-saving suite

A suite of computer programs enabling a more precise analysis to be made of heating and cooling loads in the design of buildings, with consequent energy saving through reduced margins, has been introduced by Atkins Computing Services, Epsom, Surrey.

Known as Atkool, the programs were launched by the company at last week's CAD '76 computer-aided design conference and exhibition at Imperial College, London.

Heating and air-conditioning plant in modern buildings can account for 25 per cent of the total building cost, Atkins point out. Thus significant savings can be made if plant costs can be optimized.

The Atkool system is claimed to be one of the most advanced available systems in the field of energy analysis.

Kenneth Owen

Switch to profits: London University Computing Services, which lost £648,000 in 1973-74, showed a net profit of £45,000 in 1974-75. Mr Graham Barrett, appointed managing director in August, 1974, and seen above (left) with Mr Peter Parker, LUCS chairman, has since concentrated on the technical and scientific types of bureau service for which the company's CDC 6500 computer is well-suited. Marketing effort has been aimed at increasing the number of remote-batch and teletype-user customers; developing expertise in statistical survey analysis and project control; and in transport planning and civil engineering.

Business appointments

Mr G H Kenyon becomes chairman of Tootal

Mr G. H. Kenyon, deputy chairman, has been made chairman of Tootal and Mr R. F. Audsley becomes managing director. Mr A. M. B. Kirsop has resigned as chairman and chief executive, and as a director, for personal reasons.

Mr H. Sweetbaum has resigned from and Mr M. A. C. Buckley has been appointed to the board of George Doland.

Mr Harry Smith has become managing director of Mather and Platt.

Mr David Meller is to be made managing director of Powrmatic following the retirement of Mr Christopher Duncan. Mr Robin Withers becomes financial director.

Mr J. W. Todd, chief executive and general manager of Stone-Platt Electrical's British subsidiary, has been appointed manufacturing director at divisional headquarters. He remains on the board of Stone-Platt Crawley as chief executive.

Mr T. C. Leader, managing director of the power and process engineering group of Babcock & Wilcox, has resigned from the board of Babcock & Wilcox (Operations). Mr R. Dean, deputy managing director of the power and process engineering group, is to be chairman of Babcock & Wilcox (Operations). He remains chairman of Woodall-Duckham. Mr R. Bagley becomes managing director of Babcock & Wilcox (Operations). Mr W. J. Ryder has been appointed managing director of Woodall-Duckham, succeeding Mr Dean. Mr M. J. Nightingale has been made director of administration and finance of Babcock & Wilcox (Operations). He remains deputy managing director of Woodall-Duckham. Mr J. A. Carter becomes director of contract operations of Babcock & Wilcox (Operations), succeeding Mr Ryder.

Mr Gordon Eccleston, managing director of Conveyancer (Nigeria) is to become managing director of Conveyancer Pty, the Australian subsidiary of Rubery Owen Conveyancer. He is succeeded in Nigeria by Mr R. A. Dykes.

Mr Graham Barnes, deputy managing director of LAP Advertising, has been elected deputy chairman of the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Mr Roy Dexter has been elected a non-executive director of James Austin Steel Holdings.

Mr A. L. Buchanan, comptroller of Decca Radar, has been appointed to the board.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Stock markets

Second leg finds index closing at worst

Political and currency doubts continued to keep investors to the sidelines and the market closed just as it had opened—under a cloud.

Gloomy predictions from the Cambridge Economic Policy Group at the weekend coupled with lower bank lending figures found dealers marking prices down sharply in the morning.

Thereafter the underlying strength of the market seemed to show through with equities in most sectors showing signs of recovery. However, this minor revival ran out of steam towards the close and the *FT* index finished at its worst for the day, four points down at 106.4.

Bargains marked were just over 6,000 and jobbers in all sectors found themselves with time on their hands.

Features were few and far between and most equities drifted aimlessly though generally below Friday's closing levels on lack of interest.

Leaders to close off included ICI down 4p at 395p, Fisons down 2p at 363p, Beecham off 1p at 356p and Glaxo down 2p to 378p. Courtaulds also closed 1p off at 147p though GKN struggled against the trend to finish 1p up at 349p.

Babcock & Wilcox shares rose 1p to 84p as buyers guessed that the boilermarker will soon report 1975 profits of around £15.7m against a rights issue projection of £13m. This seems likely if Babcock takes in currency gains, and an odd £500,000 from newcomer American Chain and Cable. But some observers are put off by the 3.6 per cent yield, and the United Kingdom outlook for boilers.

Government stocks rebounded from an initially weak start. The forecast from the Cambridge economists appeared to cause the market a little concern at the opening.

At the same time, the announcement of Friday's new "tap" issue was still a bearish influence. However, to the surprise of many jobbers, buyers began to materialize in the market, giving prices a firm upward nudge.

By the close of trading, short-dated stocks were showing net gains of ¼ to ⅜ point, after at one stage being down by an ⅛ point. Long-dated stocks recovered early losses of an ⅛ to ¼ point, to close largely unchanged on the day.

The decline in the quarterly bank lending figures had banks and insurances leading the market reversal in many cases. In banks National Westminster fell 7p to 235p, Midland dropped back 5p to 273p, while Barclays fell 4p to 288p. Lloyds shed 2p to close at 220p. However, Standard Chartered still basking in its rights success climbed 3p to 390p.

Insurances generally fared worse. Commercial Union gave up 4p to end the day at 135p, General Accident fell 5p to 176p and Royal Insurance shed 2p to close at 320p. Eagle Star lost 4p to finish at 136p and Brittanic fell back 6p to 148p.

In a mixed oils sector BP went ahead strongly on investment interest at one stage, but a 5p gain at one point was later converted to only 2p. The shares closed at 613p. Elsewhere Burmah gave up 2p to close at 36p while Shell shaded ½p to 410p and Ultramar dropped a full 6p to end at 156p. Royal Dutch, however, managed a £⅜ rise to £37⅜ and Berry Wiggins put on 2p to 47p.

Ministerial talks on shipbuilding failed to produce much speculative interest and the shares closed mixed, though the underlying trend was reasonably firm. Ocean Transport climbed 2p to 135½p, and a similar amount was surrendered by Hunting Gibson at 160p.

Rumours of a rights issue from Lucas sent the shares sharply back at one stage but they recovered well to close only 2p down at 226p. Company news sent Booker McConnell ahead by 12p to 140p but Newman Tonks dropped 6p to 40p on the interim setback.

Threatened liquidation of the West German group half-owned by UDS sent the store's shares down 4p to 83p and the price declined further in after-hours trading.

British Vending are now 9p. The situation her is that Nestle, "the Swiss based international food group has just under 30 per cent of the shares, or within a whisker of the need to make a full bid, and the chairman Mr John Syrad nearly 19 per cent. To gossip that he might retire soon, the chairman says: there is nothing in this, my health is excellent, and we are looking for acquisitions ourselves."

Elsewhere in stores Boots gave up 1p to close at 135p and Marks and Spencer fell a penny to 94p. Mothercare, however, climbed 2p to 188p on weekend press mention.

The lower bullion price was reflected in easier gold shares, with East Driefontein shading a sixteenth to £7⅛, and Kloof and Val Reef both shedding £⅛ to close at £4⅞ and £15⅞ respectively.

Two shares in demand on speculation about forthcoming results were Brent Chemicals, up 4p to 109p, and Babock up 3p to 84p.

Stanwood Radio advanced 3p to 12p following the agreed bid from Thorn Electric as speculators gambled on a counterbid, possibly from Electronic Rentals.

Brewers were a weak feature as a result of disappointing production figures but cheap buyers and closers kept losses to a minimum in most cases. Allied showed a net loss of just ½p at 65½p while Guinness and Grant Metropolitan both shaded down a penny to 129p and 74p respectively. Bass Charrington finished the day unchanged at 99p. Traditional budget fears sent Distillers down 2p to 148p while a similar amount was lost by Highland at 108p.

Weekend press comment helped Amber Day up 3p to 27p, and Development Securities up ½p to 65½p.

In mines Southern Kinta slumped 15p to 76p on news of the closedown of its Thailand operations.

Properties were a neglected market with prices tending easier in several cases. Land Securities shed 1p to 175p, Capital and Counties dropped back ½p to 14½p and Town and Commercial gave up a similar amount to close at 7½p.

Equity turnover on March 26 was £59.25m (17,162 bargains marked). According to Exchange Telegraph active stocks yesterday were ICI, Shell, BP, Barclays, Fisons new, Bowater, BAT, De La Rue, Lucas, Burmah, Babcock, Royal Dutch, Keith & Henderson, Reardon Smith, Booker McConnell, GEC, Siebens Oil and Gas and BICC.

Latest dividends

Company (and par values)	Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Barratt Devs (10p) Int	1.82	1.27	28/5	—	5.99
Booker McConnell (50p)	3.36	3.4	1/7	5.76	5.4
Burgess Products (25p) Int	Nil	0.98	—	—	3.30
E C Cases Fin	0.68	0.63	—	1.26	1.18
Gibbs & Dandy	1.48	1.39	—	1.48	1.39
James Fisher (25p) Fin	1.30	1.14	3/6	2.48	2.32
Pochin's Int	0.87	0.87	—	—	3.5
Rotaflex (GB) (10p) Fin	0.36	0.30	—	0.78	0.72
Newbridge Hldgs (25p)	3.00	2.75	—	3.00	2.75
W. Tyzack Int	1.25	1.12	—	—	2.46

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54.

Value of H C Janes to Barratt Devels

By Margaret Walters

An extremely strong forward sales position over the remainder of the year is highlighted by housebuilder Barratt Developments in its interim report to shareholders.

Sales for the first six trading months to the end of December doubled from £16.6m to £33.3m and pre-tax profits were £4.25m as against £2.6m.

But this included maiden contributions of £7.7m to turnover and £1.2m to profits from recently acquired housebuilder H. C. Janes. Profits from land sales were well down on last year's level, at just £24,000 as against £470,000.

The chairman refers to "a substantial increase in the number of houses completed and sold over the corresponding period last year".

The group considers the results "very satisfactory" and they are attributed to a combination of increased market penetration

Late Rotaflex upturn

By Adrienne Gleeson

Although profits of Rotaflex, the light fittings and sanitary and shower-appliance manufacturers, were down in 1975 for the second year running at £638,000 pre-tax (against £791,000), the directors have increased the dividend by the maximum permissible, to 12.1p a share gross.

Compared with the first quarter of last year, when demand was very depressed, the chairman, Mr M. J. B. Frye, reports a notable improvement in current trading, particularly in Europe. If this trend continues he has "every expectation that 1976 will bring a significant improvement in results over those achieved last year".

Almost all of last year's downturn was concentrated in the first half, when pre-tax profits dropped by £146,000. The second half benefited from a distinct upturn in demand in the final three months, which affected both the light-fitting and the shower-appliance divisions.

An increase in minorities from £92,000 to £111,000 relates to an improved performance over the year as a whole in the French and Australian subsidiaries.

Amgold's fresh ventures

Anglo American Gold Investment is maintaining a steady interest in new ventures, according to the annual report. There have been encouraging results from drilling on the low-grade Erfdeel venture, but initial drilling by Goldridge has been disappointing.

There are also drilling projects in the Doornrivier area south of the OFS goldfield and south of Vaal Reefs. The gold exploration programme in Brazil has been encouraging enough for activity to be raised this year.

Amgold is also looking for uranium in the north-west Cape, and with Union Corporation and two French partners in South-West Africa. Apart from taking up its rights in the new Deelkraal and Elandsrand gold mines and the extended Saaiplaas operation, the main portfolio change is the raising of the stake in potential uranium producer, Afrikander Lease, from 12.2 to 15.2 per cent.

Mr Julian Ogilvie Thompson, chairman, says that greater gold productivity will be needed to offset rising costs.

Union Corporation anticipates lower dividend income this year, with gold revenue down, and platinum up.

More trouble at Leaderflush

Troubled door manufacturer Leaderflush, which was given a boost by new management last June, is on the boil again. The group is holding an extraordinary general meeting on June 27 for a radical alteration to the board.

The chairman Mr Geoffrey Simon, and sales director Mr David Sawyer and Mr W. R. Starkey, another director, are subject of resolutions that they be removed from the board, and replaced by a Mr Bremner and a Mr Lawrence. There is understood to be "disagreement" over policies

Westinghouse low committal

The current year has started reasonably well at Westinghouse Brake & Signal. Mr L. Thompson, chairman, told the annual meeting that the group has a big order book.

He is confident that this year will show an improvement over 1975, but there are two "major uncertainties ahead". One is the timing of orders in Australia—where the change in Government has led to delays.

The other concerns the level of the phasing out of British Rail's capital investment programme

Briefly

SAMUEL PROPERTIES
Co has bought a further £295,000 of 7½ per cent first mortgage deb. stock 1995-2000 for cancellation. This leaves £620,250 outstanding.

ASSOCIATE DEAL
Cazenove & Co bought on March 26 35,000 Emu Wine ord at 182p for Thomas Hardy Pty.

W. TYZACK, SONS AND TURNER
Pre-tax profit for half year to January 31 last, £113,914 (£128,880). Sales, £1,602,464 (£1,249,358). Interim 1.25p net or 1.92p gross (1.73p). Co had to delay price rises to suit Price Commission. Increases now in effect.

GIBBS AND DANDY
Dividend 1.48p net or 2.27p gross (2.14p gross). Pre-tax profit for last year £259,880 (£243,923).

NEW BRIDGE HOLDINGS
Dividend 12 per cent (11 per cent) for 1975. Pre-tax profit £93,936 (£103,645).

F. W. WOOLWORTH
Fourth quarter profit to end January rose from $31.198m to $59.830m. Sales were up from $1,281.8m to $1,467.6m. Year ago results restated to comply with financial accounting standards.

SCOTTISH METRO PROP
Rights issue of £4.24m of 9 per cent conv. unsec. loan stock 1992-1996 was 95.5 per cent taken up. The other £190,143 of stock was sold at a premium for entitled shareholders.

DEUNDI HOLDINGS
Proposed to reduce capital by lowering nom. value of ord. from £1 to 5p because greater part of capital is no longer represented by assets available to United Kingdom shareholders.

BH SOUTH
Board is rescheduling output in the next two months at the CSA mine, Cobar, NSW. Work force will be cut by 65 employees to around 200. Production will be at rate of 600,000 tonnes a year.

HENLYS
The latest returns suggest to Mr Gordon Chandler, chairman, that pre-tax profits in the first half of the year to next September will be "marginally in excess of half those for the corresponding period last year". This corrects Saturday's comment.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Rolls chief on need to reward capital

Spelling out the need to produce a good return to investors if new money is to be raised, Mr Ian Fraser, chairman of Rolls-Royce Motor Holdings, says that so far the "social contract" between shareholder-proprietors and employees has clearly helped employees.

However, British industry cannot always continue along these lines as this would invite a "strike" by the pension funds, insurance companies and other institutions who provide the money.

The board is pressing ahead with its "anti-cyclical" investment programme confident that by the time it is completed the market will be able to take the company's extra production

Car sales so far this year are "adequate" and prospects in the industry are improving.

Jas Fisher down 17 pc after late setback

Having pushed its pre-tax profits up from £596,000 to £622,000 at half time, James Fisher & Sons, the shipowner, ended 1975 with only £647,500. This went against a record £781,000. Turnover rose from £5.13m to £6.42m, so margins were only 10 per cent, against 15 per cent. Even so the dividend rises from 3.52p gross to 3.81p. Earnings a share were 15.64p, against 18.37p.

At the half-way stage the board warned shareholders that the recession might hurt the second half year.

No Burgess payout

Losses deepened in the six months to January 31 at Burgess products (Holdings) from £27,000 to £134,000. Turnover rose from £5.8m to £7.7m. The group is not paying an interim dividend, after 1.46p gross last year.

The board of this acoustical and electrical engineer and manufacturer blames losses on fixed-price contracts. Although inflation and the recession continue to affect the group there are signs of an improvement in some companies.

Over the whole of last year pre-tax profits fell from £453,000 to £159,000.

Rights successes

Three more rights issue successes have been announced, this time from Crown House, External Investment Trust and James H. Dennis.

Crown House had acceptances on 4.45 million shares and the balance of 489,000 has been disposed of in the usual way.

External Investment had acceptances of £1.26m out of the £1.43m of loan stock offered. James H. Dennis says that 93.88 per cent of the rights issue was taken up.

Bid for Wm Reed

For £92,000 (33p a share) the Birmingham and Midland Counties Trust has purchased 280,000 shares in the William Reed & Sons man-made fibres group. This takes the group holding to 41.54 per cent and a general offer to other shareholders at 33p cash a share will follow. This puts a total price tag on William Reed of about £792,000.

For its part the William Reed board advises shareholders to take no action at this stage.

E. C. Cases down 58 pc

On a turnover up from £3.8m to £3.9m, the pre-tax profits of E. C. Cases (pallets, garden sheds) fell 59 per cent to £159,000 last year. Most of the fall came in the first six months but the second six months saw a decline of 17 per cent before tax to £102,000.

Profits are stated after allowing for a fall in the value of stocks, written down by £58,000 and redundancy payments accounted for £19,000. Earnings a share are 2.64p, against 6.65p but shareholders will receive a dividend of 1.94p gross, against 1.8p.

Lean times for Metall AG

Frankfurt, March 29.—Metallgesellschaft AG's group profit for year ended September 2, 1975, slumped from DM36.9m to DM25.1m (about £4.5m). This was on sales of DM5.4m (DM6.6m). Of this turnover abroad was 35 per cent (28 per cent). World sales fell 15.6 per cent to DM6,079m.

Earnings in the first five months of the current year, 1975-76 were below year-ago levels and the company would need optimism to expect final profits to reach last year's figures, Herr Jakobus Greven, the finance director states.

This was his only comment when asked whether the company expected a higher or lower dividend for the current year. The 1974-75 dividend was cut to DM5 from DM6.

The chairman, Herr Karl Gustav Ratjen said that overall turnover between October and February fell a net 5 per cent, due mainly to lower metal prices.

In this period sales were down 16.5 per cent for the metal sector, down 14 per cent for manufacturing, unchanged in chemicals but higher for plant construction.

Herr Ratjen said the company was determined to give up its Leichtmetal holding and Alusuisse has the right of first refusal. He would not confirm if Alusuisse or a third company was the likely buyer. Losses of Leichtmetall to date have cost the Metall AG DM107m.—Reuter.

Overseas

Steel slump puts Krupp in red

Fried Krupp GMBH, which is foundation-owned, made a group loss in 1975 after a net profit of DM87.5m in 1974, the managing board chairman, Herr Heinz Petry, said in Essen.

Last December, the steelmaking arm, Fried Krupp Hüttenwerke, said it had made a 1975 operating loss of around DM200m (about £36.3m) and expected to pay no dividend.

Herr Petry said the 1975 foreign sales proportion of total turnover rose to 44 per cent (37 per cent) or over DM4,000m. Incoming orders in the last two months of 1975 and at the start of this year had improved slightly, but the company had a long way to go to make good the new order slump of 1975.—Reuter and AP-Dow Jones.

Non-tobacco side Gallaher's hope

The non-tobacco operations of Gallaher, the tobacco, engineering, optical and distribution group, are all in areas where growth can be expected, Mr A. W. Stewart-Moore, the chairman, says in his first annual statement.

The group will encourage these activities to expand and to search for new markets, but for many years to come the group—a subsidiary of American Brands of the United States—will be dependent on profit from tobacco. He points out that the United Kingdom is the group's most important market and must face increasing competition from overseas and the EEC.

Amal Metal sells unit to Jardine

Amalgamated Metal Corporation has agreed in principle to sell Sandilands Battery to Jardine Matheson (South East Asia) for $M8m (£1.63m).

About $M5m will be paid on completion, with a further two equal payments at the end 1976 and 1977. The sale is subject to the relevant consents of Government and other authorities in the United Kingdom, Malaysia and Singapore.

Foreign Exchange

The dollar yesterday closed firm against most European currencies except the lira, which recovered the 2 per cent depreciation that occurred during the morning, to close unchanged from pre-weekend levels.

Main trading attention focused on weakness of lira and sterling.

Sterling closed at $1.9170 against the dollar, down 35 points from Friday, stabilizing at around the $1.9160 level most of the day after recovering from the initial "low" of $1.9130/40. The pound's "effective rate" widened from 33.8 to 33.9 per cent—its worst level ever.

Gold fell $1.75 an ounce, to $129.50.

Spot Position of Sterling

	Market rates (day's range) March 29	Market rates (close) March 29
New York	$1.9130-9185	$1.9165-9175
Montreal	$1.8825-8865	$1.8870-8880
Amsterdam	5.15-18½fl	5.16½-17½fl
Brussels	74.70-75.30f	74.85-75.05f
Copenhagen	11.62-70k	11.63½-64½k
Frankfurt	4.87-91m	4.89½-89½m
Lisbon	55.85-56.25e	56.00-30e
Madrid	128.40-90p	128.55-75p
Milan	1623-50lr	1623-26lr
Oslo	10.58½-66½k	10.60½-61½k
Paris	8.98-9.02f	8.98½-99½f
Stockholm	8.44-47k	8.45-46k
Tokyo	573-82y	574-78y
Vienna	34.90-35.30sch	35.05-25sch
Zurich	4.87-91f	4.89½-89½f

Effective depreciation since Dec 21, 1971, up 0.1 to 33.9 per cent.

Forward Levels

	1 month	3 months
New York	.83-.73c prem	2.25-2.15c prem
Montreal	.12-.02c prem	.05c prem-.05c disc
Amsterdam	3½-2½c prem	9¼-8¼c prem
Brussels	20-50c disc	10-40c disc
Copenhagen	10-13ore disc	11-14ore disc
Frankfurt	3¼-2¼pf prem	8½-7½pf prem
Lisbon	60-160c disc	100-330c disc
Madrid	70-120c disc	250-330c disc
Milan	15-22lr disc	30-47lr disc
Oslo	1½ore prem-½ore disc	6-4ore prem
Paris	par-2c disc	3¾-5¾c disc
Stockholm	2ore prem-par	6½-4½ore prem
Vienna	30-10gro prem	70-45gro prem
Zurich	4-3c prem	11-10c prem

Canadian dollar rate (against US dollar). $1.0152-55.

Eurodollar deposits (%) calls, 4⅞-5⅛; seven days, 4⅞-5⅛; one month, 5-5⅛; three months, 5¾-5⅞; six months, 6-6⅛.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $131.10 (an ounce); pm, $130.10.

Krugerrand: (per coin): $132.25-134.25 (£69-70) (domestic); $132.75-134.75 (£69.25-70.25) (International).

Sovereigns: (old), $44-45 (£23.00-23.50) (new); $44.50-46.50 (£23.25-24.25) (International).

Discount market

Credit eventually proved very short after a comfortable morning in the discount market yesterday. The Bank of England gave assistance on an exceptionally large scale through purchases of Treasury bills and corporation bills directly from the houses.

However, the help was more than that required by the market, and interbank rates dropped swiftly to about 4 per cent in the last stages. Secured loans ranged between 6½ and 7½ per cent for final balances, having spent most of the day in the region of 8-8½ per cent. The market was nervous throughout, what with the Cambridge economic survey and the still unresolved Labour leadership issue.

The market faced a net take-up of Treasury bills, banks carried slightly run-down balances across the weekend, and there was a further rise in the note circulation. Against these were set an excess of Government disbursements over revenue transfers to the Exchequer—a figure which was not as large as anticipated.

Money Market Rates

Bank of England Minimum Lending Rate 9⅛%
(Last changed 5/3/76)
Clearing Banks Base Rate 9½%
Discount Mkt Loans %
Overnight: Open 8½ Close 7¾
Week Fixed: 8-8½

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	8[illegible]	2 months	8[illegible]
3 months	8[illegible]	3 months	8[illegible]

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

2 months	8[illegible]	3 months	9
3 months	8[illegible]	4 months	9¼
4 months	8½-8½	6 months	9¼
6 months	8¾-8½		

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	9-8½	7 months	9½-9
2 months	9-8½	8 months	9½-9
3 months	9¼-8¾	9 months	10½-10
4 months	9¼-8¾	10 months	10½-10
5 months	9½-9	11 months	10½-10
6 months	9½-9	12 months	10½-10

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	8¼-8½	6 months	9-8[illegible]
3 months	8[illegible]	12 months	9[illegible]

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	8½	3 months	8¾-9
7 days	8½-8½	6 months	9¼-9½
1 month	8½	1 year	10¼

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open	8¼-8	Close	6
1 week	8¼-8½	6 months	9[illegible]
1 month	8¼-8½	9 months	9[illegible]
3 months	8[illegible]	12 months	10½-10

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)
3 months 9½ 6 months 9½

Finance House Base Rate 10%

Recent Issues

	Closing Price
Electra Inv 25p Ord (82)	[illegible]
GLC 12½% 1983 [illegible]	[illegible]
Hartlepools Wtr 9% Red Pf (†a)	[illegible]
LASMO 25p Unit (25)	[illegible]
Do 14% Ln 81-88 (£100c)	[illegible]
Mid-Sussex Wtr 9% Red Pf (*)	[illegible]
SCOT 10p Unit (10)	[illegible]
Do 14% Ln 81-88 [illegible]	[illegible]
Scot Mtg 9% Cnv [illegible]	[illegible]
Sutton [illegible]	[illegible]
Treasury [illegible]	[illegible]
Treasury [illegible]	[illegible]

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of return	
Cement Roadstone (58p)	Apr 30	5 prem
De La Rue (380p)	May 21	37 prem
Dew G (30p)	..	[illegible] prem
Diploma Inv (88p)	Apr 14	[illegible] prem
Fisons (325p)	Apr 7	[illegible] prem
GEI and Durban (115p)	May 7	30 prem
Letraset (88p)	May 7	13 prem-2
Mixconcrete (56p)	Mar 14	[illegible] prem
Parker Timber (70p)	..	21 prem
Raine Eng (18p)	May 14	3 prem-½
Tharsis Sulphur (200p)	Apr 30	[illegible] prem
Youghal Carpets (30p)	May 14	[illegible] prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a £50 paid. b £10 paid.

BURNS, PHILP

For half year to December 31 net profit $A2,470,000 ($A4,595,000). Sales, $A171,644,000 ($A146,373,000). Interim 7.5 cents a share (same).

Eurobond prices (midday indicators)

$ STRAIGHTS	Bid	Offer
AIDC 10¼ 1981	105	106
Air France 9¼ 1982	103¼	104¼
Airlease 8¾ 1988	91	94
ARDB 9¾ 1980	101½	102½
Ashland 8 1987	95	96
Barclays Bank 9¼ 1982	101½	102½
BFCE 9 1983	103½	103½
Broken Hill Prop 9½ 1981	103½	104½
British Steel Corp 8¾ 1989	88	90
Burlington 7¾ 1987	92¾	93¾
Carrier 8 1987	92¾	93¾
CECA 8¾ 1982	100½	101½
Chevron 7 1980	99	100¼
Conoco 7 1980	99	100¼
Conoco 8 1986	99¼	100¼
Cons Foods 7½ 1991	91	92
CSR 9½ 1980	101½	102½
Curacao Tokyo 8¾ 1988	94¼	95¼
Curacao Tokyo 10¾ 1981	102½	103½
Cutler Hammer 8 1987	95¾	96¾
Dana 8 1987	95	96
Denmark Kingdom 7½ 1990	88	89
DSM 9¼ 1980	103	104
EIB 9 1980	101¼	102¼
EIB 9½ 1985	102½	103½
Escom 9¾ 1989	87½	89½
Escom 10¾ 1985	95½	97
Escom Floating Rate 1983	95	96
First Chicago 7 1980	96¾	97¾
GATX 8¾ 1987	95¼	96¼
Gould 9¾ 1983	103½	105½
Guardian Royal 8 1987	83½	85½
Gulf and Western 9¾ 1980	103½	104½
ICI 7¾ 1993	87	90
International Util 8¼ 1982	98¼	99¼
Motorola 8 1987	96¾	97¾
National Coal Board 8¾ 1982	87½	90½
New Zealand 9 1980	102½	103½
New Zealand 9¾ 1982	102½	103½
Nippon Fudosan 10¼ 1980	105	106½
Nippon Steel 9½ 1980	102¾	103½
NA Rockwell 8¾ 1987	95	96
Occidental 10 1981	101½	102½
Ontario Hydro 9 1980	103½	104½
Pacific Lighting 8 1988	95½	96½
Pacific Lighting 9¾ 1981	101	102
Pennwalt 8 1987	96¾	97¾
Ralston Purina 7½ 1987	95¾	96¾
Scanraff 7½ 1990	93	93
Scanraff 8¾ 1988	98½	99½
Shell 7½ 1987	97¼	98
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Standard Oil 8¾ 1988	100¾	101¾
Standard Oil 8¾ 1988	102	103
Statsforetag 9¾ 1980	101½	103½
Sybron 8 1987	95¼	96¼
Tenneco 7¾ 1987	91½	92½
Textron 7¾ 1987	90¾	91¾
Transocean Gulf 7¾ 1980	95¾	96¾
Union Oil 7½ 1987	99¼	100¼
Williams & Glyns 8¾ 1987	88	91

DM BONDS	Bid	Offer
CFP 8½ 1985	102¾	103¾
Denmark 9¾ 1989	105	106
ICI 8¼ 1982	102¼	103¼
Mexico 9 1982	103¼	104¼
National Westminster 8 1988	99	100
Sumitomo Metal Inds 8½ 1983	103¼	104¼
Sun Int Fin 7½ 1988	97	98

$ CONVERTIBLES	Bid	Offer
AMF 5 1987	72	74
Amer Express 4¼ 1987	78	80
Beatrice Foods 4½ 1993	93	95
Beatrice Foods 6¼ 1991	107	109
Beatrice Foods 4¾ 1995	99	101
Borden 5 1992	97½	99½
Borden 6¾ 1991	105	107
Broadway Hale 4¾ 1987	77	79
Carnation 4 1988	81	83
Chevron 5 1992	107	109
Cummins 6¾ 1986	87	89
Dart 4¾ 1987	88	90
Eastman Kodak 4½ 1988	123	125
Economic Labs 4¾ 1987	81	83
Fed Dept Stores 4½ 1985	139	141
Ford 5 1988	87	89
Ford 6 1986	98	100
Gillette 4¾ 1987	82	84
Gould 5 1987	89	91
Gen Electric 4¼ 1987	85	87
Gulf and Westrn 5 1988	100½	102½
Harris 5 1987	83	85
Honeywell 6 1986	81	83
ITT 4½ 1987	78	80
J. Ray McDrmtt 4¾ 1987	129	131
J. P. Morgan 4¾ 1987	112½	114½
Nabisco 5¾ 1988	91	93
Owens Illinois 4½ 1987	102	104
J. C. Penney 4½ 1987	87	89
Revlon 4¾ 1987	102	104
Rank Org 4½ 1995	47	49
Sperry Rand 4¾ 1988	98	100
Squibb 4¾ 1987	81	83
Texaco 4¾ 1988	78	80
Union Carbide 4¾ 1982	137	139
Warner Lambert 4½ 1987	92	94
Xerox Corp 5 1988	[illegible]	[illegible]

Source: Kidder, Peabody Securities.

Bank Base Rates

Barclays Bank	9½%
First London Secs	9½%
C. Hoare & Co. ..	*9½%
Lloyds Bank	9½%
Midland Bank	9½%
Nat Westminster ..	9½%
Rossminster ACC's	9½%
Shenley Trust	11½%
Williams & Glyn's	9½%

* 7-day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under, 5½%, up to £25,000, 6¼%, over £25,000, 6¾%.

MARKET REPORTS

Coffee again at new highs: cocoa advances

For the second time in less than a week, coffee reached new highs on the London market yesterday and cocoa, which was at new life-of-the-contract highs on Friday, at £824.75 for spot March and £799.75 for May, exceeded those prices yesterday.

In coffee robustas finished the day at £936 for spot March (£28 up on Friday) and £943.50 for May (£23 up). Trade sources said that some of the rise was due to weekend steadiness in New York and sterling's weakness. Another factor was trade reports that Brazil had increased her minimum export prices.

Bull sentiment, allied to currency and constructive chart projections were jointly responsible for the all-round cocoa advance which carried spot March to £832.50, which was £7.75 up on Friday, while May advanced £10.75 on Friday to £810.50.

In metals, copper remains a nervous market in the grip of a downward price correction after the recent sharp advance. Cash wire bars were £5.50 down on Friday at £700 while three months was £5.50 lower at £720.75.

In tin, fresh outside demand was quiet and the Penang price was $M2 down on Friday at $M1,075. On the LME standard cash was at £3,656.50, which was £9 down on Friday, and three months fell by £9.50 to £3,666.50.

COPPER.—Afternoon.—Cash wire bars, £699.50-700.50 a metric ton; three months, £720.50-721. Sales 3,525 tons. Cash cathodes, £690-92; three months, £710.50-12. Sales, nil.

Commodities

[illegible]

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 29: UK: Cattle £25.15 per live cwt (+0.45). Sheep 50.5p per lb EDCW (+2.7). Pigs £4.86 per ScLW (+0.10). England and Wales: Cattle numbers down 3.5 per cent, average price £25.25 (+0.49). Sheep numbers down 2.2 per cent, average price 50.5p (+3.2). Pig numbers down 10.9 per cent, average price £4.89 (+0.09). Scotland: Cattle numbers down 27.9 per cent, average price £24.30 (+0.16). Sheep numbers up 16.7 per cent, average price 49.2p (+0.7). Pig numbers down 16.7 per cent, average price £5.00 (+0.19).

Rosgill reshuffle

In an internal reorganization, Rosgill Holdings, the "Pippa Dee" party sales and discount stores group is selling one subsidiary, Moneysave to another, Supersave, for £1. Rosgill guarantees that shareholders' funds as at April 3 were £113,000.

Moneysave sells food and other items through self-service discount stores but made a loss of £234,000 before tax in the half year to December 13. The new arrangement will strengthen the group by eliminating continuing losses and drain on cash resources. It will also give a boost to net current assets.

UK metal stocks

Stocks in London Metal Exchange official warehouses at the end of last week (all tonnes unless otherwise stated were: Copper up 3,500 to 530,900; Tin up 15 to 5,845; Lead up 775 to 86,100; Zinc down 1,000 to 50,050; Silver up 30,000 to 15,290,000 troy ounces.

Ivory Coast and US in agreement on cocoa

Abidjan, Ivory Coast, March 29.—It is not often the United States and the Ivory Coast have seen eye to eye on matters of international commodity trade. The reason is simple: the Ivory Coast is a seller of tropical products; the United States is a buyer.

So when both countries refuse to sign a newly-negotiated international agreement on cocoa, despite much prodding from Ghana, the world's largest producer, it is worth asking what is going on.

The answer has much to do with the future price of this key commodity. It reflects a switch in production toward higher-cost West African nations and Brazil, and away from lower-cost Ghana. At issue is whether cocoa prices will remain high enough to encourage new planting on the scale needed to prevent them from going even higher.

Ghanaians, backed by a study by the London-based International Cocoa Organization, think there could be too much cocoa in the 1980s. If prices remain high, the use of substitutes will be encouraged, they say.

Other analysts disagree. "We think production will not exceed anticipated consumption in the 1980s", says an official of Gill & Duffus, the London traders.

Here in the Ivory Coast, where a $50m project to double cocoa output by 1985 is under way, things are seen in the same way. "It is wrong to say that if prices are high you will lose consumption", declares Agriculture Minister Abdoulaye Sawadogo. "There is considerable scope for expansion, particularly in Eastern Europe."

Wall Street

New York, March 29.—Prices struggled for direction in moderate trading on New York Stock Exchange this morning. Shortly before 11 am EST, the Dow-Jones industrial average was off 1.73 points to 1,001.73.

Of the 1,432 issues crossing the tape, 515 advanced, 504 declined, and 413 remained unchanged. Turnover during the first hour amounted to around 4.49 million shares.

In the news background the Commerce Department reported that its February index of leading economic indicators rose 0.8 per cent, the fourth monthly rise.

Russia and the Philippines get their lines crossed on sugar deal

There are obviously crossed lines somewhere between the Philippines and the Soviet Union about how much sugar the former has sold to the latter.

Earlier this month a statement from Manila that the total was 400,000 tonnes drew a denial from Prodintorg, the Soviet agency which imports and exports sugar and other food products. Prodintorg said that the deal is for only 200,000 tonnes "and not a gramme more".

Yet, announcing further sugar deals with other countries last Thursday, President Marcos threw in the remark that delivery had already begun of 400,000 tonnes to the Soviet Union.

Promptly from Moscow came a reiteration of Prodintorg's earlier statement, that the total was only 200,000 tonnes. And for good measure this statement added that speculation that the Soviet Union might have an option on a further 200,000 tonnes was incorrect.

It is clear from President Marcos' remarks, however, that whatever the size of the Soviet deal, the Filipino's are working with a will to reduce the amount of sugar lying around in warehouses, estimated to be 1.5m long tons, and to find markets for the 1.7m tons it is estimated will be available for sale from this year's crop.

The Philippine National Bank says that it has signed a contract for the supply of 650,000 tonnes of sugar a year for the next five years to Sucrest Corporation of the United States and, according to London sources, there is a clause for a five-year extension.

Another contract has been signed with the Great Western United Corporation of Texas which, according to London sources, is for the delivery of 400,000 tonnes a year for five years. Algeria has signed a memorandum of agreement for between 140,000 and 200,000 tonnes over three years from 1977.

Negotiations are also under way with Middle East countries and with other member states of the Association of South-East Asian Nations. And an envoy has just returned to Manila from a sugar sales promotion tour which included Cuba, Colombia, Britain and other countries.

Commodities

President Marcos announced the sugar deals at the opening session in Manila of the convention of the sugar cane producers, who have complained about the government's abortive attempt to force up world prices by withdrawing sugar from the world market.

He told them that they were thinking in terms of warehouses that would be emptied by the *new deals. It has been reported* that sugar has been stored in every available building around Bacolod, in the "sugar bowl", and that some of the stockpile has been rotting.

The producers were also told that the Philippines might establish local refineries

At last coffee tops the £900

A forecast in mid-January that £900 a tonne for robusta coffee might be within sight by the end of that month was not fulfilled and even new highs of £881.50 for the first position and £894.50 for the second, established on February 9, were below that expectation.

However, having trundled along mostly in the upper £800s for the remainder of February and the first half of March, the breakthrough came on the 24th, when first position rose to £911 and second position went to £922.50.

Although the immediate factor in the breakthrough was probably reaction to a strong market in New York and speculative interest, the emergence of sizable roaster buying points up the fact that by the end of next month the frost season will be approaching again.

If, as is believed, Continental and United States trade has been existing on a hand-to-mouth basis, serious buying must soon begin, or has already begun, and still higher prices must be expected.

Thus those manufacturers who have held back and worked on low cover are now paying the penalty and the question arises whether they will still be in the market should prices top the £1,000 per tonne mark, or whether they will regard this level as too high to be tolerated.

Some pungent advice to the trade comes from Mr Richard Clark, the editor of *Coffee International*, in the latest issue of his journal. After summing up the pro's and con's of the new International Coffee Agreement, he says that its successful conclusion will enable everyone to go back to their proper business, which is buying and selling coffee, and continues:

"And the first thing that everybody has to do now is to sell more coffee. Without bigger sales, everything that has been achieved in these last months will be lost.

"Producers must sell more coffee to the roasters and processors, and the roasters and processors must sell more coffee to the consumers.

"If it does nothing else, the agreement should at least see the start of a new, world-wide marketing offensive. The producers and the consumers will between them be contributing some $50m to a war chest which is to be spent on promoting coffee.

"If it is sensibly spent the returns should be handsome, but if it is dribbled away on a series of vaguely defined and ill-coordinated projects the final impact on overall sales will be derisory.

"What the industry as a whole has to do is to sell the *idea* of coffee to a public which has largely become indifferent to its special qualities, and the best way of doing that is to get them thinking about coffee and talking about coffee.

"Coffee must become news again—and not just when the price goes up, or some lunatic scientist claims that it causes dandruff.

"It must be associated in the public mind with the traditional family virtues. It must be given a positive social image, and a status as a very special beverage that everyone can afford on all occasions. It must, in a word, become *chic*."

Wallace Jackson
Commodities Editor

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

American industrial indicators show fourth monthly upturn

Washington, March 29.—The composite index of leading United States economic indicators increased 0.8 per cent in February, after a revised gain of 1.5 per cent in January, the Commerce Department has reported.

The February rise was the fourth consecutive monthly increase, and brought the index (base 1967) to 105.7, its highest level since August, 1974.

Eight of the 11 indicators available gained and three fell. The lay off rate in manufacturing declined for the fifth successive month to 1.1 per cent from 1.2 per cent.

Other upward movements were shown by the four-month average of sensitive wholesale prices, which increased 0.66 per cent compared with a rise of 0.40 per cent in the previous four-month period.

The average work week declined to 40.3 hours from 40.5 hours, and contracts and orders for new plant and equipment fell $430m (about £214m) to $7,270m.

The four-month average of total liquid assets held in the private domestic non-financial sector of the economy increased by 0.76 per cent, a slip from January's 0.88 per cent.—Reuter.

French price rise: French consumer prices rose 0.7 per cent in February according to provisional estimations from the Official Statistics Institute, which said the estimate was based only on the Paris area, because a strike by computer personnel had delayed the official index.

Food products went up 1.0 per cent, services 9 per cent and manufactured goods 0.5 per cent. The official consumer price index rose by 1.1 per cent last January and by 0.8 per cent in February, 1975.

Unlike the 3.5 per cent rise in December, mainly due to consumer goods and energy, January's increase covered most sectors.

Activity in intermediate sectors, which was reduced because of large destocking, was now increasing at a rate of between 5-10 per cent in chemicals, glass, textiles and cardboard.

Commenting on January's results, M Jean-Pierre Fourcade, the Finance Minister, noted that the rise in production was in line with expectations

"Several sectors have already reached and occasionally exceeded their best levels of 1974", he added. "Our objective is to ensure that the recovery leads to lasting growth. We must find the conditions of a balanced growth, that is to contain inflation." — AP-Dow Jones.

Japan's output of TV sets at record level

By Ronald Emler
Industrial Staff

While Britain's television production industry flounders in deep depression, output from Japanese makers reached a record 757,000 sets in February.

The Electronic Industries Association of Japan said yesterday that the output figures revealed production had increased by 23.4 per cent over January and stood at 91 per cent above February, 1975.

Brisk export demand was the main factor behind the output jump. Sales to the United States were up 260 per cent compared with February last year, and overall exports rose by 114 per cent.

Japanese exports to Britain in February were sharply down, however, compared with February 1975. Last year the United Kingdom took over £2.1m worth of receivers from Japan.

Last month this fell to £993,000, reflecting the severe recession in the domestic industry which is anxiously looking towards next week's Budget for some relief in VAT duties.

Since Mr Healey's imposition of 25 per cent VAT rate in last year's Budget, the sector's domestic sales have fallen by some 40 per cent for colour receivers and the only domestic producer of colour tubes, Thorn, has ceased production.

French electric goods 'to grow by 6-11 pc'

Paris, March 29.—French electrical and electronics manufacturing is expected to grow at an average annual rate of between 6 and 11 per cent a year up to 1980, the president of the industry's federation said today.

M Roland Koch said the average annual growth rate during 1970-75 stood at 8.5 per cent, 1975 being an exceptional year because overall sales declined by 0.5 per cent to 56,000m francs (about £6,200m). This was the first time in 30 years that the industry has experienced negative growth.

Exports, which rose by 17 per cent last year to 6,000m francs, were a main factor in the industry's ability to withstand the effects of the recession, M Koch said. Imports had dropped back by 6.4 per cent.

The perspectives for the industry during the seventh French development plan up to 1980 included a growth rate of between 7 and 13.5 per cent for the capital goods sector, 4 to 6 per cent for household electrical goods (slightly lower than during 1970-75), and about the same level of expansion for intermediary goods as in the previous five years.

Estimates of French imports stood at between 22 and 26 per cent of domestic consumption by 1980. For French manufacturers to exceed present levels of exports, the industry would have to rely mainly on accelerating sales

To boost production and maintain exports at their present proportion of one-third of total turnover would necessitate efforts both on new technology and price competitivity,' M Koch maintained.

Financing capacity was seriously eroded last year and its restoration was the foremost economic priority.

M Koch cited the need for positive profit margins and a tax system which did not impose taxes on "fictional" profits revealed by balance sheets which did not take depreciation into account.

He declared: "There is no reason to suppose that increased production and an improvement in the employment situation can be obtained without reducing the excessive charges borne by companies and without giving them the means to succeed."—AP-Dow Jones.

Car exports rise by 61 per cent

Tokyo, March 29.—Japanese vehicle exports in February rose to 294,116 units. This was 15.3 per cent higher than the January level of 255,076 units and 47 per cent more than the 200,044 units sold in February, 1975, according to the Japan Automobile Manufacturers' Association.

The February total comprised 214,949 cars (up by 61 per cent from a year earlier), 77,834 lorries (up by 20.3 per cent) and 1,333 buses (down by 27.8 per cent).

The association announced good sales to all major destinations. Exports to the United States more than doubled to 131,667 units from 58,782 units a year earlier.

Vehicle exports to Australia in February rose to 20,582 units from 14,193 units a year earlier, while those to the Middle East, including Saudi Arabia, totalled 19,699 units, compared with 13,796 units in February, 1975.

Exports to West European markets, including Britain and Belgium, amounted to 47,500 units, compared with 42,591 units in February last year.

General Motors in truck deal with Poland

General Motors Corporation said in London yesterday that it will distribute Polish-made trucks in western countries under a deal to be signed shortly with Polmot, the Polish motor industry agency.

The agreement will involve Poland setting up a truck factory of GM design with financing from Polish sources. GM will retain marketing rights for the factory's exports to western markets.

GM declined to give further details about the deal but confirmed it is also involved in trade negotiations with Romania and Bulgaria. The corporation already buys parts from Yugoslavia.—Reuter.

Clothing industry sees first signs of recovery

An upturn in the fortunes of the clothing industry is being forecast by Chester Barrie, the Crewe-based menswear manufacturer who yesterday announced that it had sold just over 95 per cent of scheduled production for next winter's delivery.

Confirmation that manufacturers are beginning to see the first signs of a recovery, came from Mr Douglas Brown, chairman of the Leeds and Northern Clothing Manufacturers Association.

Mr Brown said the multiple side of the industry was a quick barometer of activity and there were signs of an upturn. A spokesman for Hepworth Tailoring, who manufacture and retail menswear, said that in the past few weeks demand in their 350 retails shops had improved.

Chester Barrie believe they are a reliable indicator of the expectations of the menswear industry

Mr Myron Ackerman, the Chester Barrie group chairman, said yesterday: "Frankly we are a little surprised by the strength of the turn-round in business.

"Last year was depressing and although retailers are by no means being extravagant, they are displaying considerable confidence in their business prospects

The night sky in April

By Our Astronomical Correspondent

Mercury is in superior conjunction on the 1st. It will be at greatest evening elongation on the 28th, when it will set two hours after the Sun. It will be brighter, however, before that date; an hour after sunset on the previous few evenings it will be about 8° above the horizon and rather to the north of west.

Venus has run into the sunrise glow and is unlikely to be seen this month.

Mars will be visible until after midnight, but its magnitude has fallen to 1.2, about the same as the star Pollux. Moon in the area on the 6th.

Jupiter is running into the sunset and is unlikely to be seen after the first few days; in conjunction on the 27th.

Saturn will be setting in the early hours, but readily observable in the evenings and brighter than the neighbouring Mars and Pollux. Moon near on the 8th.

Uranus starts as a morning star in Virgo, but will be in opposition on the 25th and thereafter classed as an evening object. Its opposition magnitude will be 5.7, only just below naked eye visibility, and it could be found with binoculars.

Neptune is a morning star in Ophiuchus but is not quite on the map for this month.

The Moon: first quarter, 7d19h; full, 14d12h; last quarter, 21d07h; new, 29d10h (eclipse).

Algol: evening minimum at 8d22h. By the end of the month it will be getting rather low for observation. Mira Ceti has run into daylight. When last seen by your Correspondent it was at about 3rd magnitude.

There will be an annular eclipse of the Sun on the 29th. The distances from the Earth of the Sun and Moon are not constant, so their apparent sizes are not constant either. On this occasion, although the Moon will pass centrally across the face of the Sun, it will be too small to cover it and will leave a ring or "annulus" of sunlight all round. The path along which the effect can be seen stretches from the Atlantic Ocean off Dakar, and over Asia Minor to western China.

Over Europe in the latitude of the United Kingdom it will be seen as a partial eclipse, maximum obscuration being about 40 per cent of the diameter of the Sun's disk in southern England and 30 per cent in Scotland. The eclipse will begin at about (depending on where you are) 09h, maximum 10h15m, and end at 11h30m. If you think of the Sun as the face of a watch the first ingress of the Moon at 10 am BST should be looked for at about 5 o'clock.

Do not look at the Sun even with sunglasses. An adult can take quick glances through heavily smoked glass or a dense photographic (B/W, not colour) negative, but for children it is safer to project the image on to a card. That can be done with any small telescope, one side of a binocular, or even with a pinhole in a sheet of cardboard.

Comet West turned out to be brighter than expected, and on the day of perihelion passage, February 25, was even seen in daylight by an observer in the United States. Over here there were weather handicaps and your correspondent did not see it at all; for me the clear nights of the first few days of March ended in mist or fog by dawn, and then the overcast skies were resumed.

A reader in the Manchester area saw it well on the 2nd and glimpsed it with difficulty on two other mornings. He considered it to be brighter than Comet Bennett in 1970. Members of the Comet Section of the British Astronomical Association are widely scattered over the country and the director has received numerous reports of observations.

On the 2nd the magnitude was −2, on the 3rd −1 and on the 4th −0.5; it had 3 or 4 degrees of tail. By the 9th it had fallen to +2.5, though a long exposure photograph taken on that day showed no less than 10 degrees of tail.

The diagram shows the brighter stars that will be above the horizon in the latitude of London at 23hr (11 pm) at the beginning, 22hr (10 pm) in the middle and 21hr (9 pm) at the end of the month, local Mean Time. At places away from the Greenwich meridian the Greenwich times at which the diagram applies are later than the above by one hour for each 15 deg west of Greenwich and earlier by a like amount if the place be east. The map should be turned so that the horizon the observer is facing (shown by the words around the circle) is at the bottom, the zenith being the centre. Greenwich Mean Time, known to astronomers as Universal Time and expressed in 24hr notation, is used in the accompanying notes unless otherwise stated.

Commercial and Business market

Contracts & Tenders

Businesses for Sale

Business Notices

Business Services

Finance & Investment

Business Travel

Office Equipment

EDUCATIONAL COURSES

EDUCATIONAL STUDENTSHIPS

University of Aberdeen

S.R.C. CASE STUDENTSHIP

EDUCATIONAL

COMPANY NOTICES

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

DRAWING OF BONDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

Appointments Vacant also on page 30

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL

LECTURESHIPS IN ECONOMICS

University of Reading

LECTURESHIP IN RUSSIAN

University of Liverpool

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC HISTORY

LECTURER IN ECONOMIC HISTORY

AUSTRALIA

Monash University Melbourne
LECTURER IN PSYCHOLOGY

University of Adelaide
READER IN CLINICAL ONCOLOGY

University of Newcastle New South Wales
PROFESSOR OF COMMERCE

Flinders University of South Australia
CHAIR OF EARTH SCIENCES

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR/SENIOR LECTURER—STATISTICS

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP IN SOCIAL SCIENCES

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Oxford
UNIVERSITY LECTURESHIPS IN APPLIED SOCIAL STUDIES

(a) PSYCHOLOGY
(b) SOCIOLOGY
(c) SOCIAL WORK

The University wishes to fill at least two, and possibly all three, of the above named posts from 1 October 1976 (or later by agreement) on the scale £3,174 to £6,378 according to age. In the case of the first post if a suitable applicant is appointed Jesus College will consider offering a stipendiary Senior Research Fellowship. In the case of the second post if a suitable applicant is appointed Nuffield College will consider offering a Faculty Fellowship. Details and application form from the Director, Department of Social and Administrative Studies, Little Clarendon Street, Oxford, OX1 2ER, to whom applications should be sent for receipt by April 23rd.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Dar es Salaam
TANZANIA

Applications are invited for the following posts in the

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1. SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER IN TAXONOMY

Candidates should hold a Ph.D. degree in Plant Taxonomy and be conversant with modern approaches to taxonomy.

University of Dundee

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LECTURESHIP IN DENTAL SURGERY

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Tuesday, 30th March, at 10.30 am
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the property of Anthony Tuke, Esq.
Cat. (70 illustrations, 6 in colour) £1.25

Wednesday, 31st March, at 10.30 am and 2 pm
ANCIENT AND FOREIGN COINS, IN GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE AND AN EXTENSIVE SERIES OF PAPAL MEDALS
Cat. (6 plates) 50p

Wednesday, 31st March, at 11 am
FINE SEVENTEENTH, EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH CENTURY ENGLISH PAINTINGS
including the property of Her Royal Highness Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, G.C.B., C.I., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., the Hon. Lady Stucley and Sir John Dilke, Bt.
Cat. (42 plates, 1 in colour) £2.25

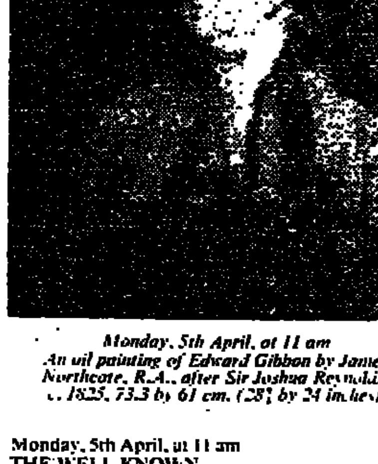
Thursday, 1st April, at 11 am
ENGLISH AND FOREIGN SILVER AND PLATE
including the property of the Lord Broadbridge and the Lord Gifford
Cat. (27 illustrations) £1

Thursday, 1st April, at 2.30 pm
WATERCOLOURS BY WILLIAM ALEXANDER, SIR JOHN BARROW, BT. AND CAPTAIN HENRY WILLIAM PARISH, R.A.
illustrating the Earl of Macartney's Embassy to China 1792-1794
the property of a gentleman
Cat. (16 plates, 2 in colour) £1.25

to be followed immediately by

IMPORTANT EIGHTEENTH AND NINETEENTH CENTURY ENGLISH DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLOURS
including the property of Major-General C.G. Woolner
Cat. (30 plates, 2 in colour) £1.90

Friday, 2nd April, at 11 am
ENGLISH FURNITURE, WORKS OF ART, RUGS AND CARPETS
including the property of L. A. C. Ridout, Esq.
Cat. 20p



Monday, 5th April, at 11 am
An oil painting of Edward Gibbon by James Northcote, R.A., after Sir Joshua Reynolds, c. 1825, 73.3 by 61 cm. (28¾ by 24 inches)

Monday, 5th April, at 11 am
THE WELL KNOWN COLLECTION OF PRINTED BOOKS
formed by the late Dr. A. N. L. Munby, T.D., Litt.D., Fellow and Librarian of Kings College, Cambridge (sold by order of the Executors)
The Second Portion: Sale Catalogues, Memorabilia and English Literature *Cat. (3 plates) 50p*

Tuesday, 6th April, at 10.30 am
IMPORTANT CHINESE CERAMICS, BRONZES AND WORKS OF ART
including the property of His Excellency Hugo Wistrand and Dr. Gunnar O. C. Santesson
Cat. (63 plates, 15 in colour) £2.95

Tuesday, 6th April, at 11 am
MODERN AND ANTIQUE FIREARMS, CANNON, ARMOUR AND EDGED WEAPONS
including the property of the Lord Vivian and the Lord Hastings *Cat. (6 plates) 40p*

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VICTORIAN PAINTINGS, DRAWINGS AND WATERCOLOURS
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Wednesday, 31st March, and the following day, at 10.30 am
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Tuesday, 30th March, and the following two days at 8 pm
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Tuesday, 6th April, and the following day, at 4.30 pm
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by kind permission of Lord Mansfield

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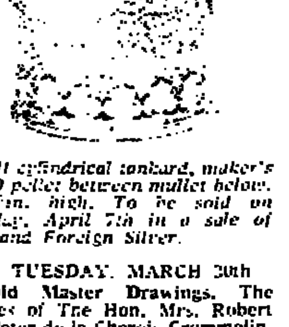

Charles II cylindrical tankard, maker's mark AD pellet between mullet below, 1665, 6½in. high. To be sold on Wednesday, April 7th in a sale of English and Foreign Silver.

TODAY, TUESDAY, MARCH 30th
Fine Old Master Drawings. The Properties of The Hon. Mrs. Robert Bruce, Peter de la Cherois Crommelin, Esq., The late James Knapp-Fisher, Esq., and others. Catalogue (78 illustrations, including 1 in colour) £2.30 post paid.

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Important English and Foreign Silver. The Properties of The Lord Astor of Hever, The 7th Earl of Lucan. Sold by Order of the Trustees in Bankruptcy, Lord Swaythling, The late Sir Ian Stewart-Richardson, Bt., The Trustees of the late Sir R. V. Sutton, Bt. and others. Catalogue (55 plates, including 1 in colour) £1.80 post paid.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 2nd
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MONDAY, APRIL 5th
Fine Chinese Ceramics, Bronzes and Works of Art. The Properties of The late Mrs. E. D. Heathfield-Harrison and others. Catalogue (78 plates, including 3 in colour) £2.30 post paid.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6th
Seven Pictures from the Zumsteg Collection. The Property of Mr. Gustav Zumsteg of Zurich. Catalogue (7 plates, including 6 in colour) £1.50 post paid.

TUESDAY, APRIL 6th
Impressionist and Modern Paintings, Drawings and Sculpture. The Properties of Hon. Michael Astor, The late Fletcher Jones, Sold by Order of the Executor, Bank of America and others. Catalogue (74 illustrations, including 29 in colour) £3.30 post paid

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Christie's will be open on Sunday, April 4th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. for a special view of seven pictures from the Zumsteg Collection and other Impressionist and Modern Pictures, Drawings and Sculptures to be sold on April 6th.

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TUESDAY, MARCH 30th at 2.00 p.m.
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Furniture, Carpets and Objects of Art.

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TUESDAY, APRIL 6th at 10.30 a.m.
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Christie's South Kensington's Review of Pictures and Watercolours, 1975 is now available, price £1 post free.

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The property of the late Lord Salter, PC, GBE, KCB sold by order of the Executor, and other properties, including a German 17th Century silver gilt cup and cover; a pair of William Cafe candlesticks; a pair of George III silver gilt coasters, the complete set of Orders and Medals. Catalogue 20p.

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Catalogue 25p.

Thursday, 1st April at 11 a.m.
ENGLISH AND CONTINENTAL FURNITURE
including two good early 19th Century mahogany extension dining tables; a French ebonised and brass display cabinet, c 1850; a set of eight mahogany Chippendale style dining chairs; eight similar pieces of Louis XV style beechwood ... furniture. Catalogue 20p.

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Friday, 2nd April at 11 a.m.
PORCELAIN AND WORKS OF ART
Catalogue 20p.

Tuesday, 6th April at 11 a.m.
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Tasting Monday, 5th April at 11 a.m. Catalogue 25p.

FRIDAY, 30th APRIL. Pot Lids, Goss, Fairings, Stevengraphs, Baxter and Le Blond Prints. Entries close Thursday, 8th April. Vendors' commission for inaugural sale only £1.00 per lot.

At the Old Chelsea Galleries
Tuesday, 30th March
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at 10.30 a.m. CARPETS at 12.30 p.m.
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CHAS. BOARDMAN & SON. Specialist sale period oak furniture and walnut, pewter, delft edecor of 16th, 17th and 18th cent. at the Town Hall, Clare, Suffolk, on 7th April. Details: Haverhill 3784.

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SALE BY AUCTION of the remaining contents of a large house in north Oxford comprising mainly 19th century English and continental furniture including a Hungarian Library Suite, a Bergere Suite, Oriental Carpets, Pictures, Ornaments etc. To be sold on Wednesday, 14th April, commencing at 11 a.m. Catalogues priced 30p from Styles & Whitlock, 16 King Edward St., Oxford (0865) 44657.

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Good English and Continental Furniture, Works of Art, Carpets.
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Today, March 30, 2 p.m.
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Wednesday, March 31, 11 a.m.
Ceramics and Glass.
Wednesday, March 31, 11 a.m.
At Leeds, Furniture, Clocks, Ceramics. View day prior.
Thursday, April 1, 10 a.m.
View Wednesday
Furniture, Pictures, etc. at Marylebone.

Friday, April 2, 11 a.m.
Silver & Plate.
Friday, April 2, 11 a.m.
Postage Stamps. Ill. Cat. 30p.
Friday, April 2, 11 a.m.
A fine and comprehensive private collection of art glass. Ill. Cat. £1.10 by post.
Monday, April 5, 11 a.m.
Antique, Decorative Furniture, Works of Art, Carpets.
Monday, April 5, 11 a.m.
Watercolours and Drawings.
Monday, April 5 2 p.m.
Prints.

There will be an addition sale of **Jewellery** on Wednesday, April 14, at 2 p.m.

Phillips the Auction People since 1796. 7 Blenheim Street, New Bond Street, London, W1Y 0AS. Telephone: 01-629 6602

DAVID HANSFORD & COMPANY
Specialist Auctioneers of fine contemporary Oriental rugs
30-4 Old Marylebone Road, London, N.W.1. Tel: 01-262 6628

URGENT PUBLIC AUCTION
(PIECE BY PIECE)
OF WAREHOUSED STOCK OF VERY FINE & VALUABLE
PERSIAN AND ORIENTAL
Carpets, rugs and runners

This very large and exceptional collection of luxurious hand-made carpets includes: Silk & Inlaid Silk Qooms; Kashan rugs; Anatolian Silk rugs; Kirman carpets; fine Belouch rugs; Afghan carpets & rugs; many other fine Persian tribal rugs: Sarouk & Nain rugs, together with fine items from Pakistan & Rumania and many more.

THE ENTIRE CONSIGNMENT ORDERED FOR IMMEDIATE REMOVAL FROM STORAGE FOR FINAL CLEARANCE TO MAKE WAY FOR NEW IMPORTATIONS
ON SATURDAY, 3rd APRIL, 1976 AT 11a.m.
AT THE HEATHROW HOTEL, BATH ROAD, LONDON (HEATHROW) AIRPORT, HOUNSLOW
WHERE THE ITEMS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION FROM 9a.m.
Every item is guaranteed genuine and hand-made and in excellent condition

Harrods Estate Offices

FINE ART AUCTIONEERS AND VALUERS

Wednesday 31st March
10 a.m. CARPETS AND RUGS
10.30 a.m. ANTIQUE AND MODERN FURNITURE.

Thursday 1st April
10 a.m. OBJECTS OF ART.
2 p.m. PRINTED BOOKS.

Friday 2nd April
10 a.m. SECONDARY SALE.

Catalogues: 20p from Galleries or from Head Office, 1 Hans Rd., S.W.3. **No premium for buyers.**
Viewing: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. TODAY.

ARUNDEL TERRACE, LONDON, S.W.13
Tel : 01-748 2739

Forthcoming specialised sales:
15th April, Pictures; 6th May, Silver & Plate; 20th May, Books. Cat. 30p p.p.

Published this week: PICTURES PRICES 1975, an index of paintings and drawings sold for £20 or more. 90p

King & Chasemore

Specialist Sales at Pulborough

April 6th at 11 a.m. Selected Oil Paintings & Watercolours
April 7th at 11 a.m. Selected 18th & 19th Century Furniture, Bronzes, Sculptures and Works of Art.
April 7th at 2.30 p.m. Longcase, Bracket and Carriage Clocks, Musical Boxes, Automata, Watches, Barometers, Scientific and Musical Instruments.
April 8th at 2.30 p.m. English European and Oriental Porcelain and Eastern Works of Art.
Viewing: Saturday 3rd, 9-1 and Monday 5th, 10-5.
Illustrated Catalogues: 30p (£1 by post) from Fine Art Department, Pulborough, Sussex. Tel: Pulborough (079 82) 2081.

Properties under £25,000

NORTH PEMBROKESHIRE

Modern 3 bedroomed detached Bungalow and Caravan Site. Beautiful sea views. Management and Mortgage available. Price £22,000.

Particulars from Cross House Cottage, Mathry, Dyfed.
Telephone now Croesgoch 415

KNIGHTSBRIDGE—3 MINUTES HARRODS

In quiet square—Beaufort Gardens. Lower ground floor flat in recently converted Georgian house. In immaculate condition throughout. Fitted bedroom, large enough for 2 beds. Good sized sitting room with french windows opening onto patio. Compact fitted kitchenette, plumbed for washing machine. Dressing room with fitted cupboards. Fully tiled pink bathroom & shower en suite. Patio with external staircase. Dry vaulted store with tiled floor and power points. Central heating. C.H.W. Lift. 131-year lease.

VACANT POSSESSION £17,000
01-584 0174 Any time
VIEWING BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

KINGTON
Newly converted 1720 stone built cottage in beautiful Herefordshire ... yards River Arrow. Rebuilt original period. 2 bedrooms, kitchen and bathroom. Open ...
£8,000
Telephone 226 1916

CLAPHAM COMMON
£19,000 F/H.
Tastefully modernised house with many original features including marble fireplaces. Full gas c.h. 28ft. through recep. 20ft. fully fitted kit / diner. 4 bedrooms. 2 bathrooms, patio.
John Marcus & Co.
01-228 8686

CHILTERNS
Redundant buildings on the edge of small country hamlet between Oxford and High Wycombe. Fully detached. 900 square feet approximately. Ideal for artist or craftsman as studio or workshop.
£10,000 freehold.
Box 0191 P, The Times.

18TH CENTURY COTTAGE
WEST SUSSEX VILLAGE.
3 bedrooms, large sitting room, bathroom, separate toilet, kitchen, garage, small garden, conservatory, cellar. All mod. cons. £21,000. Tel. 01-589 1968. No Agents—No Offers.

Country property

ESTATE AGENTS & PROPERTY DEVELOPERS

Don't miss your chance to advertise your properties in The Times Focus on the Residential Property Market. It is appearing on April 9th and will be covering 3 main topics.

1 FARMS & ESTATES
2 LEISURE & RETIREMENT HOMES
3 RIVERSIDE PROPERTIES

For further details and to advertise your properties in this feature phone the Property Team on

01-278 9231

Probably the Finest House of its type on deep water in the South of England

Exceptional private residence easily maintained. Could interest company with oil interests. 5 bedrooms, 3 receptions, marble hall, flat, etc. Good communications, attractive village. Unique. Offers around £100,000.
Telephone: Newton Ferrers 872234.
Casa-Del-Rio, Newton Ferrers, Devon.

ESTATE AGENTS and Property Developers. For all Property Advertising Phone 01-278 9231.

Properties under £25,000

ESTATE AGENTS, Developers for all Commercial and Industrial Property Advertising Phone: 01-278 9231.

OFFICE SHARING Would you like to share our office (near Foyles) by paying monthly 50% of fixed expenses? Please phone Miss ...

LEIGHTON BUZZARD. Modern flat, 2 beds., dining, living, kitchen, bath, balcony, c.h., country area, 45 mins. Euston, £9,750 (including new carpets). Tel. Leighton Buzzard 71306.

London & Suburban property

CONNAUGHT SQUARE W.2
Lease for sale of very desirable Georgian Town House (3 years remaining, but renewable).
IMMEDIATE POSSESSION
Ring daytime 01-219 4462. Evenings 01-985 1986.

ATTRACTIVE MODERNISED Freehold House off Bayswater Road, 5/4 bedrooms, 3 recept., 2 baths., garden, plus s.c. mews cottage and garage. £77,500.—889 6154.

PROPERTY WANTED

SOUND OLDER Spacious Property. Pref. House. At least 4 bedrooms; West End Central London.—Box 0459 P, The Times.

PROPERTY TO LET

ANGMERING-ON-SEA
Charming small terraced cottage to let furnished. Sitting room, dining room, modern pine kitchen, 3 bedrooms, completely redecorated and tastefully furnished, gas central heating, patio garden, sun verandah, direct access beach. Minimum period 3 months. From £35 weekly.
RUSTINGTON 3327

SEVENOAKS.—Short let, May to August or long let from 1st May on annual basis. Attractive 4 bedroom house. Five minutes from station, shops and schools. Dining room, drawing room, kitchen-breakfast room. Small attractive garden. Rent £160 per month. Tel. Sevenoaks 54838.

Overseas Property

CYPRUS.—Super villas and village conversions, Limassol Paphos.—Before the next boom write Rosdicea, 16 Thackeray Street, London W8 5EZ.

Mortgages & Finance

BIGGER AND BETTER Mortgages, Remortgages, Garfield Hillman & Co. Ltd., 161/165, Temple Chambers, Temple Ave., EC4Y 0DU. Tel: 01-353 2457/8 and 353 6101/3.

BUSINESSMEN. For all your Commercial and Business requirements see today's Commercial and Business Market Place. Or to advertise phone Sally Fenn or Louise Lang on 01-278 9351

London Flats

KENSINGTON & CHELSEA
CPK Construction are offering 1, 2 and 3-bedroom flats in Harcourt Terrace, Redcliffe Square, Westgate Terrace and Ifield Road. The flats are radically converted to very high specifications.
1 bed : £12,000 to £16,600
2 bed : £16,500 to £18,000
3 bed : £20,500 to £22,100
For long leases
01-584 8517
CPK

REGENT'S PARK
OFF MARYLEBONE ROAD
Charming flat: lounge, 1 bedroom, k. & b., c.h., c.h.w., lift, porter, fitted carpets, curtains, wardrobes as new. £... p.a. incl. rates. 25 years lease
£15,500
Ring 656 6407
IDEAL FOR BUSINESS EXECUTIVE

HEREFORD ROAD, W.2.—Spacious 3rd floor flat in grand Edwardian mansion block. 2 recep., 4 beds., hall, kitchen, bathroom, sep. w.c., and ample storage. C.H. Lift, porter, entry phone. Requires some modernisation. £23,500 for 99-year lease.—01-584 8517 C.P.K.

BUCKINGHAM GATE, S.W.1. Pied a terre for sale, one room, k. & b. Lease to June, 1977. Rent £200 p.a. Fixtures and fittings £500. Coward & Co. 584 1857/ 589 0050.

S.W.7. Mews House in private road. Double-fronted. Spacious rooms, Balcony, Garage, C.H. £53,000 Freehold. Telephone 01-373 5636.

London Flats

PIMLICO FLATS. £15,500-£25,000. Pilgrim Props 828 4000.

DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

Resident Married Couple or perhaps 2 friends

HELP WANTED FOR COUNTRY HOUSE

KIND PERSON NEEDED ...

A MATERNITY NURSE ...

EXPERIENCED NANNY ...

AU PAIR ...

DAY NURSERY ...

HIGHLAND HOTEL ...

MOTHER'S HELP ...

NANNIES ...

ST. TROPEZ ...

WANTED ...

WELL-KNOWN ...

WRITER'S FAMILY ...

DOMESTIC SITUATIONS

EXPERIENCED TRAINED NANNY, 30+
for 9 months old Boy. Permanent live-in job. Nursery duties only. Luxury Hampstead house. Other resident staff kept. Summer abroad. Highest wages.
01-458 4034

COOK/HOUSEKEEPER
£42 p.w.

YOUNG EXPERIENCED COOKERY TEACHER
AND
GENERAL ASSISTANT

TEMPORARY ...

YOUNG MARRIED COUPLE ...

REQUIRED

FROM PHILIPPINES ...

TWO HIGHLY TRAINED ...

7 YEARS PRESENT PLACE! ...

LEGAL NOTICES

No. ... of 1976
In the HIGH COURT of JUSTICE Chancery Division Mr Justice Brightman In the Matter of SOUTH AFRICAN DISTILLERIES AND WINES Limited and In the Matter of the Companies Act, 1948
Notice is hereby given that the Order of the High Court of Justice, Chancery Division, dated the 22nd day of March 1976 SANCTIONING a SCHEME OF ARRANGEMENT and CONFIRMING the REDUCTION of the CAPITAL of the above-named Company ...

LEGAL NOTICES

THE COMPANIES ACTS 1948 to 1967 LITTLE TANGLEY SECURITIES Limited
Notice is Hereby Given that the CREDITORS of the above-named Company are required on or before the 31st day of May 1976, to send their names and addresses and the particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to JOHN GARTIN IREDALE of ... Gresham Street, London, EC2V 7DS the LIQUIDATOR of the said Company, and, if so required by notice ...

THE COMPANIES ACT 1948 ...

JOHNSON & WAYNT Limited ...

Legal Appointments

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants

Botswana

Assistant Attorney-General

Duties include appearing in court in civil matters, assisting in prosecutions, drafting and approving contracts and commercial and international agreements, some legal drafting and giving general advice to Government departments.
Candidates must be qualified solicitors or barristers, and experience in criminal and civil litigation, commercial law and legal drafting is desirable.
Starting salary is in a scale equal to £6740-£7810 pa. (MA 312/TA)

Magistrate

In addition to normal judicial duties the successful candidate will supervise junior Magistrates.
Applicants must be qualified solicitors or barristers with at least five years experience since admission or call. Preference will be given to those with magisterial experience.
Starting salary is in a scale equal to £3810-£7085 pa. (MA 311/TA)

The salary scales include a substantial and normally tax-free supplement paid under Britain's overseas aid programme and the basic salary of each post attracts a 25% tax-free gratuity. Additional benefits include free passages, generous paid leave, children's holiday visit passages and education allowances, subsidised housing, an interest free car loan of £900 and appointment grant up to £300.

For further details and application form write to

Crown Agents

Appointments Division, 4 Millbank, London SW1P 3JD, quoting appropriate reference.

SOLICITORS

We have the following new positions for Solicitors wishing to practice Maritime Law in the following fields —

Ship finance and related work to include preparation and consideration of new building contracts, foreign flag, tax and other similar problems, contracts for sale, mortgages and security documents for the shipping and oil industries.

Admiralty and related work to include collision and salvage, general average and claims and litigation arising.

Applicants should preferably be Solicitors with previous or related experience but those with good degrees who wish to specialise may also apply.

All positions may involve a certain amount of foreign travel.

Good salaries and prospects for the right applicants.

Write in confidence with Curriculum Vitae including qualifications and experience as follows

For Shipping Finance—G. H. Hodgkinson, Esq.
For Admiralty—C. J. Ealand Esq

SINCLAIR, ROCHE & TEMPERLEY,
Stone House,
128-140 Bishopsgate,
London, EC2M 4JP.
Telephone No.: 01-247 6985

Telford Your Opportunity

TELFORD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

ASSISTANT SOLICITOR

Applications are invited for this appointment of the staff of the Corporation Solicitor. The appointment will be made on Grade VII (£4395-£4845) for a recently admitted solicitor or on Grade VIII (£4992-£5406) for a solicitor with not less than three years admitted service.

The post offers general legal work with excellent opportunities for a solicitor seeking experience in the public service in an organisation with a strong commercial bias.

Housing may be available. Removal expenses and temporary lodging allowances are payable in approved cases. The successful applicant will have the benefit of a non-contributory life assurance scheme and the Local Government Superannuation provisions.

Application forms may be obtained from The Secretary, Telford Development Corporation, Priorslee Hall, Telford, Shropshire TF2 9NT, and should be returned by not later than 12 April 1976, quoting Ref. No. 20/20.

NORTON, ROSE, BOTTERELL & ROCHE

require a

YOUNG SOLICITOR

for their Property Department having two years good general property experience to work as assistant to one of the Senior Partners in the Department. The work has a commercial and financial bias with some estate and domestic aspects. The right person will have drive and a capacity for hard work and a sense of humour. Generous salary offered according to experience.

Apply in confidence to :—

R. H. R. Clifford, Esq.
Kempson House, Camomile Street, London EC3A 7AN.

BIRMINGHAM

CONVEYANCING AND LITIGATION POSTS

Large Birmingham City Centre Firm of Solicitors seek:

Conveyancing Solicitor with three to four years experience since admission to handle a wide range of different commercial and other property matters and deal direct with clients;

Litigation Solicitor able to tackle a wide range of contentious work with the minimum of supervision.

Applications in confidence to:

Staff Partner (S),
EVERSHED & TOMKINSON,
10 Newhall Street,
Birmingham, B3 3LX.

SOLICITOR PARTNER REQUIRED

to run
old established firm
in
Birmingham City Centre.
Substantial profits.
Box No 0072 P,
The Times

EAST GRINSTEAD SOLICITORS

require young solicitor either for Litigation and Family Law including Advocacy or to do conveyancing and other non-contentious work: old-established firm with congenial working conditions — Please write giving full details to:

Messrs. Pearless de Rougemont & Co.,
8 Church Lane, East Grinstead, West Sussex.

ZAMBIA

Qualified Solicitor with experience in Commercial, Company, Conveyancing and Probate required for Copperbelt firm. Salary £9,380 (at present rate of exchange). Two year contract renewable by mutual consent. 25% gratuity on completion of two year contract, free accommodation and other fringe benefits. Single or married man with no children preferred.

Apply in writing with full details of qualifications, etc., to:

MESSRS. CLARKSON WRIGHT & JAKES,
303 High Street, Orpington, Kent BR6 0PG,
Ref. DHM.

TRUSTS & FAMILY, E.C.3.

Solicitor c. 5 year qual with sound exp. of trust estate planning and probate needed for major role in 8-partner firm c. £6,000 now, good partnership prospects.

TRUSTS ASSISTANT, W.C.1.

Intensive experience offered by large firm to solicitor qual. min 2 years, £5,000+.
Discuss either in confidence with David Adams Solicitor. 01-443 8803 9 a.m.—9 p.m.
DAVID ADAMS ASSOCIATES

ALANGATE Legal Staff. The specialist consultants to the profession offer a confidential service to employers and staff at all levels. Telephone for appointment or write to Mrs. Romick, Mrs. Harkness or Mr Gates, 01-405 7201, at 6 Great Queen St., London WC2 (off Kingsway).

LONDON LEGAL BUREAU. Specialists to the legal profession. Central London and rural vacancy list available on request. No fees to applicants.—Ring 278 6807

International Music Publishing and Record Group

require an

ASSISTANT TO THE GROUP LEGAL ADVISER

Experience of drafting essential. Salary negotiable. Apply Box 0556 P, The Times.

CIVIL LITIGATION

Senior Legal Executive for heavy commercial litigation and arbitration: South West coast. Salary according to experience, contributory pension, removal expenses. Write Box 0122 P, The Times.

Appointments Vacant also on page 28

also on page 28

GENERAL VACANCIES

ENGLISH-FRENCH TECHNICAL TRANSLATOR

The CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION in London seeks a translator-editor with French as mother tongue to translate technical and specialised texts into French and revise the work of other translators. Qualifications required: suitable technical and cultural backgrounds, sound knowledge of English, clear polished French style, experience in translating and editing.

The post will be graded Assistant Information Officer/Information Officer and the successful candidate will be appointed to the grade appropriate to his/her qualifications.

Salary will be within the scale appropriate to the grade. The present maximum of the Information Officer grade is £5,163 per annum. Aliens will be considered provided they are covered by a certificate issued under the Aliens Employment Act.

For full details and application form please send postcard to Central Office of Information, Atlantic House, Room 55, Floor 1, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2PD quoting reference number COI OPR 257/AA. Closing date for completed forms April 21, 1976.

Taking Stock of Your Career?

We can help you if you are:
PLANNING your career.
DEVELOPING career prospects.
FACING redundancy.
Our assessment takes stock of your aptitudes and interests and helps you to identify realistically what action to take. Brochure from:
CAREER ANALYSTS, 90 Gloucester Pl., London, W.1. 01-935 5452 24 hrs.

WELL EDUCATED individuals (16-21) find a choice of good careers through Covent Garden Appts., 53 Fleet St., E.C.4. 01-353 7696.

WINE AND FOOD MAGAZINE need an enterprising Advertisement Manager. Great potential for right person. Write, with career details, to Managing Director, Decanter Magazine, 53-56 Hercules Rd, London SE1.

SUCCESSFUL HANDBAG CO. requires partner.—See Business Notices.

GENERAL VACANCIES

BRITISH ANTIQUE DEALERS ASSOCIATION

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Applications are invited for the above post. An ideal opening for someone 25-35, with integrity, pleasing personality and ability to talk to people. Candidates should have some experience of committee work and be able to keep books up to trial balance stage.

Starting salary £3,000-£4,000 depending upon qualifications. Excellent future prospects and superannuation scheme. Successful candidate will be required to take up appointment in July 1976 or earlier.

Applications, including the names of 2 referees, to be addressed to the Secretary of the Association at 20 Rutland Gate, London SW7 1BD, and from whom further particulars may be obtained.

MARKETING/BRAND MANAGER agro-chemicals. M.D.H. essential. Based Hertfordshire. £5,000-£6,000 p.a. plus car and removal expenses if necessary.—Phone Gee's Recruitment, 499 6101-4.

P.R. CONSULTANCY has interesting opening for mature Account Executive in small, influential, expanding co. 854 7556.

ACCOUNTANCY

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANTS

Young aspiring Accountants needed, part qualified accepted. West London firm. Salary circa £3,500.

RING MR LAMBERT/MR CONNOLLY.

01-572 5371

Immediate opportunity ACCOUNTANT

Preferably with teaching experience for 3-4 months assignment. American institution, Middle East. Possible later long-term appointment. Interviews London Wed.-Fri this week. Tel. 235 8578, Dr. Stevens.

ACCOUNTANCY

ALANGATE ACCOUNTANCY Engagements, the specialist consultants to the profession, offer a confidential service to employers and staff at all levels. Telephone for appointment to Patsy Standon (B.A.Hons.) 01-236 0691

OPENINGS at all levels in the Profession.—Gabriel Duffy Consultancy, Kensington 01-937 0321.

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seek

MATURE PROFESSIONAL SALESMAN

well connected in private and/or Corporate Investments. Insurance not related. Excellent rewards assured through high commission earnings.

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584 5511

AGENT WANTED for U.K. Safe fancy leather goods. Apply ETS Cesari, 35 Rue Porta, 81000 ALBI, France

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

University of Keele

LECTURER IN RUSSIAN STUDIES

Applications invited for Lectureship in Russian Studies, salary on points 1-5 of lecturer's scale. Post requires a native speaker's command of the language, extensive experience in teaching it and qualifications in the field of late pre-revolutionary and post-revolutionary Russian Literature. Further particulars and application forms from the Registrar, the University of Keele, Staffs, ST5 5BG, to whom they should be returned not later than April 30th 1976.

Note: This advertisement replaces that recently issued for a temporary lectureship, applications for which will be considered for this post.

Dover College

(H.M.C. Independent, Co-educational, 400 pupils, Boarding and Day)

Dover College has a vacancy in September, 1976 for a

MATHEMATICIAN

MALE OR FEMALE

TO TEACH AT ALL LEVELS. Further details from, and applications as soon as possible to

THE HEADMASTER
DOVER COLLEGE
DOVER, KENT

Tel. Dover 205969

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

University of London King's College

ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

Applications are invited from GRADUATES holding a good Honours degree for a post of ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN to be in charge of the collections of Education and Law in the College Library. Previous experience in one of these areas and/or a professional qualification in Librarianship will be additional recommendations. Salary within the scale £3,174—£5,346 per annum plus £450 London Allowance. The appointment is likely to be made at the lower end of this scale. Superannuation benefits. Application forms and further particulars from the Librarian, King's College, Strand, London, WC2R 2LS to whom completed applications should be returned by 26 April.

BRITISH ANTIQUE Dealers Association—see General Vacancies.

EFL TEACHERS required for Chelsea school. Must be qualified and 25+. Telephone 730 1544.

TEACHER OF ENGLISH to adults urgently required by bilingual School, Frankfurt. Must be qualified teacher with British passport available immediately. Telephone 01-854 4366 (Mon.-Fri. 10-4).

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Hongkong

CHAIR OF CHINESE

Applications are invited for the Chair of Chinese which will become vacant on July 1, 1977, on the retirement of the present holder, Professor M. Ma. Salary will be within the professorial range and not less than HK$108,810. (£1—HK$9.80 approx.).

Further particulars and application forms may be obtained from the Secretary General, Association of Commonwealth Universities (Appts.), 36 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PF, or the Assistant Secretary (Recruitment), University of Hong Kong, Hongkong.

Closing date for applications is 30 April 1976.

Birkbeck College

(UNIVERSITY OF LONDON)

Applications are invited for the post of

LECTURER IN PSYCHOLOGY

Research experience and interests in human emotion and motivation, individual differences, abnormal psychology. Initial salary up to £5,186 on scale £3,174 by £204 to £6,254-£6,446 p.a. plus 450 p.a. London allowance. Further particulars and application forms should be obtained from the Secretary, Birkbeck College, Malet Street, London, WC1E 7HX. Closing date, 10 May 1976.

Secretarial and Non-secretarial Appointments

NON-SECRETARIAL

KENSINGTON ESTATE AGENTS

seek part-timer (mornings) with excellent typing and good telephone manner. Previous estate agency experience an advantage. Salary £1,500 negotiable. Also accounts clerk typist aged 20/25. Salary £2,000 negotiable or would consider part-timer. Please phone Miss White on 937 9622.

IT COULD BE PARIS OR LOS ANGELES

We require a sophisticated, well educated PA/PR. If you're between 25 and 38, have a personal as well as a broad appeal, here's a job for you. Applicants will travel frequently outside Europe with expenses paid and a rewarding salary.

Phone Mr Pearce, 570 5077

MANAGERESS/MASSEUSE

required for sauna massage and swimming pool complex in exclusive London hotel. Five day week (no weekends). Write giving full details of qualifications and experience to

BOX 0135 P, THE TIMES

BELGIAN/FRENCH MOTHER TONGUE

Belgian or French national with good English and possibly a degree for interesting opening within an international cosmetics house in their editorial department. This senior position calls for an alert mind, an eye for detail, and the ability to work on your own initiative. Salary £2,800 plus 4 weeks hols. Call Judy Wood 491 4636
BRIEF ENCOUNTER

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Busy West End firm of estate agents require attractive and helpful receptionist with responsibility for small library. Realistic salary and fringe benefits.

01-629 9292
Reference FHO

FASHION—Sales Assistant with ability and initiative required for high fashion boutique in Old Bond Street. Salary £2,500 (Basic + commission). Tel Miss Piana at Loewe, 499 0787.

SECRETARIAL

PRESTIGE CONSORTIUM BANK

£2,500+

Alert efficient young Secretary required (19-25). Interesting work with opportunity for promotion to P.A.

5% mortgage, 3½ weeks holiday, subsidised restaurant, interest-free season ticket loan. Superb offices.

For further details contact Anne Sutherland:

MARGERY HURST CENTRE
24 Bow Lane, E.C.4.
01-248 0331

We specialise in City appointments.

COLLEGE LEAVERS TAKE NOTE

If you like the idea of working in

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don't let lack of experience hold you back. We have several fascinating openings in these fields for Secretaries and Typists—no previous experience necessary. Salaries around £2,300. Come along and see us now.

PATHFINDERS BUREAU
629 3132
32 Maddox St., W.1.

JOB HUNTING?

DON'T COME & SEE US

until we have a job which interests you. Current vacancies in a wide variety of fields including Advertising, Publishing, Property, Insurance, Banking, etc. Some with languages.
If you are thinking of changing your job, ring us, tell us what you are looking for, leave your telephone number and we do the rest.

499 5184
INTERNATIONAL SECRETARIES

IN THE FOOT STEPS OF MARCO POLO

to Samarkand, to strange Kashmir and the halls of the great Khan. The Director of a very, very special travel group needs a Secretary. The salary's three thousand pounds a year, needless to say your holiday this summer could be something rather special. Intrigued? Call

ACORN
409 2108
10, Maddox St., W.1.
Ptolemy rules OK.

MATURE SEC./P.A. FOR STOCKBROKERS

£3,000 + L.V.s.

SECRETARY

FASHION PLUS LANGUAGES

£3,000

VIVACIOUS

We need a young vivacious Secretary. Good typist (audio). Very varied work. We are an U.A.C. ESTATE AGENCY. Good salary. Possible free accommodation. A very happy working environment.

PHONE NOW
603 0387

EFFICIENT SECRETARY

SHARE OUR SECRET . . .

SECRETARIAL

BOND ST. BUREAU

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES
Textile Promotions Director to £3,800
Merchant Bank Director to £3,300
European Sales Manager (German/French essential) to £3,000

COLLEGE LEAVERS—student travel organisation seeks young secretaries to join their special project team. £2,400

RECEPTIONIST TYPIST—newly created post with international organisation. Luxury offices. 5 x 12 PMKY. to £2,400

629 3692 629 0441

COSMETICS PA/SEC.

An exciting opportunity here working for the General Marketing manager. Lots of responsibility, hence good experience is the key quality desired. Aged 20+. Great perks—free perfume, etc. Everything you could wish for with this world famous company. Salary £2,700+. Call Chris Wallsgrove:

637 3787
PRIME APPOINTMENTS

OIL STRIKE NORTH

£3,000

This American Oil Company has a great opportunity for a top notch P.A./Sec. Working for one boss, who's in charge of planning and development, you'll have responsibility and involvement in a very interesting field. The ability to deal with people confidently and make decisions in the boss's absence is essential. Age 20-30. For more information call Brenda Terry

637 3787
PRIME APPOINTMENTS

A MATTER OF TIMING!

Sometimes we can help immediately. Sometimes eventually, but time is no object when it's a matter of helping you choose the top job exactly right for you.
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(Shorthand not necessary)

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INTERIOR GRAPHIC DESIGN CO.

Fabulous opportunity for somebody interested in design and publicity

TO £2,700 P.A.

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Arrange press conferences, helping to prepare a house journal—taking responsibility for progress chasing artists and printers—helping to arrange sponsorship of products plus giving secretarial assistance to your boss in the international Co. If you have sec. skills don't miss this opportunity.

Call Val Cook on 628 2691.
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PERSONAL SECRETARY

Up to £3,200

If you like a busy and stimulating job and have good secretarial skills and education, you would enjoy working for a top Manager of this international food Co. in the City.

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Do you like a really luxurious office? Can you handle pressure and use your initiative? A lot of phone liaison and variety will be yours. If you can do a little audio and are not afraid of some figures. There'll be no fares to pay either as you'll get a season ticket—so don't delay—call Dot Marks, 821

CHURCHILL PERSONNEL

INTERNATIONAL COMPANY

Based in central London has the following vacancies.

SECRETARY/ ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

responsible to Marketing Manager.

For this appointment, an understanding of the marketing function gained either within a company or advertising agency, would be an advantage.

SECRETARY

responsible to Production Manager

For both appointments, ability to work unsupervised and the personality to work in a team will be essential, in addition to excellent secretarial skills.

It is anticipated that the successful candidates will be educated to 'A' level and will probably have some knowledge of German and/or French

Salary from £2,900, depending on experience.

Applications to Box 0798 S, The Times.

TEMPORARIES. SECRETARIES. £1.60 (Med./Legal); £1.45+ (Commercial). Audio, £1.50+; Typists £1.30+. Belle Agy., 958 0751 405 4844.

£3,000 P.A. for bright, reliable PA/Sec. Pleasant W1 office. 935 7120.

SECRETARIES for Architects. Contact A.M.S.A. Agency, 734 0532

SH. TYPIST for small, expanding handicraft firm Holborn. £2,150+. Excellent prospects for first-class person. 405 7177.

INTERNATIONAL CO.

World wide buying organisation needs secretary for manager of freight department. Job involves liaison with overseas offices, contact with shipping agents and occasional project work in addition to secretarial duties. Smart W1 offices. Salary around £2,500, 40p LVs, season ticket loans and other excellent benefits. Phone Janis Berry on 637 4300.

MAYFAIR SURVEYORS require good Shorthand-Typist Secretary for Partner: age immaterial. Interesting work with nice people. Preferably to start immediately. Telephone Mrs. Pegas, 01-491 5820.

ART DEALER needs commercially minded Secretary with good French/Italian plus good skills for busy office. A lot of telephone work, and ability to work under pressure. £2,650 plus L.V.s. London Town Bureau, 836 1994.

INTERNATIONAL COMPANY PARIS

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(6 hrs./day £3,000 p.a.)

Write with C.V. to T.A.S., c/o Franco-British Chamber of Commerce, 196 Sloane Street, London, S.W.1

First interviews will be held in London so please indicate telephone contact.

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INTERVIEW WITH A DIFFERENCE

We need a manager/manageress with above average skills. The successful person will liaise with doctors and hospital personnel with a view to the placement of medical secretaries and clerical workers.

It's an exciting, varied job which demands a good knowledge of the medical world. Naturally, the rewards are excellent, on salary, the sky's the limit.

Talk to Jessica Higgins on 734 0157.

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ALFRED MARKS

SECRETARIAL

SECRETARY

One of our secretaries is leaving soon to return to her native Canada, and that is very sad. But if you're a bright and energetic person and think you'd like to take her place we would be pleased to hear from you. As Secretary to the Company's European Production Co-ordinator and his small specialist team you would be responsible for correspondence, production specifications, liaison, travel and information systems. A full and varied job at the Company's European Regional Offices. French and/or Italian, though not essential, would be a help. Salary will be high and there are L.Vs and four weeks' holiday per year.

If interested, then please contact Mr B. C. C. Compton, Personnel Officer, Rohm and Haas Company, Chesterfield House, Barter Street, London W.C.1. Tel.: 01-[illegible] 8844.

SPILLERS LTD.

INTERESTED IN TRAINING?

. . . as Secretary to the Group Training Manager of a large food manufacturing Company you will be required, in addition to normal secretarial duties, to assist in the administration of training courses, industrial trainees and to liaise with the Training Board.

You should be aged 21+, preferably educated to "A" level standard with shorthand/typing speeds of 100/40 wpm. At least 2 years secretarial experience and knowledge of audio are essential. You should be able to work on your own initiative and have a flair for administration.

Benefits include free lunches, 4 weeks holiday and flexible hours.

Please phone MISS C. M. BOUCHER : 01-248 5700

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A really capable one aged around 24 to 28 is required whose qualities should include patience, determination and a keen sense of personal loyalty. The candidate should also be attractive and well dressed, perceptive and gifted in dealing with different people and varied day to day problems. Pleasant offices in Mayfair mews. A very substantial salary is offered as well as clothes allowance and car. Please reply in own hand writing to Box 0124 P, The Times.

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£2,650+

A Senior typist, speed 50 w.p.m., is required to work in luxury S.W.1 offices. This is a good opportunity for someone wanting responsibility and variety. Good organisational ability is necessary as work will include deputising for the Supervisor. £60 p.a. lunch allowance plus L.V.s.

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SECRETARY/ASSISTANT FOR EDITOR OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Good educational background and office experience essential. Knowledge of Publishing and promotional procedures an advantage. Salary from £2,500, free lunch, good holidays. Send details to Personnel, Royal Institute of International Affairs, 10 St. James Sq., S.W.1.

UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR SECRETARY/PA

Unique opening offering complete involvement in overseas property consultancy as confidential assistant to M.D. Pleasant office near Oxford Circus. Good salary plus extra fringe benefits

Telephone 637 5516

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£2,600

Exciting opportunity to get involved in the Arts world by using your secretarial skills and initiative! Very interesting and stimulating environment. Very happy atmosphere, too. Don't hesitate to give me a call—I'm Judith Franks

CHURCHILL PERSONNEL

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We are a small, friendly practice, and we need someone who enjoys variety, responsibility and involvement. If you possess accurate typing, a flair for organization, and ability to handle basic figure-work, and would like to earn £2,800 p.a. then please ring 242 5066 for an appointment.

DOCTOR IN NEED! £3,300 for super efficient Receptionist/Secretary PA in private practice near Regents Park. Responsible person, able to use own initiative as doctor is away 2 days per week. 4 weeks holidays. RAND 734 9781.

£3,500. Executive Secretary/PA for Managing Director of Advertising Agency. Top level experience essential, poise, smart appearance and ability to take responsibility. Grosvenor Bureau. 499 6566/493 8383

DRAMA OFFICER seeks theatre-minded young Secretary with shorthand and audio. Sal. to £2,600. Telephone Mrs Cole, 01-555 6737. NU-TYPE.

COLLEGE LEAVER, S.W.1, Management Consultants, need accurate shorthand-typing and a little audio, varied duties with stretch. £2,000-£2,500 p.a.—JOYCE GUINESS BUREAU, 589 8807.

P.A./SEC TEHRA[N]

Paediatrician with banking interests seeks a GRADUATE P.A./Secretary to assist with his varied day-to-day activities, and hold the fort in his absence. Aged 25-30-ish, free flat is shared with a similar. Good salary and conditions—interviews today!
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£2,600-£3,000

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Editor/Press Officer of well known Planning Institute need P.A. Sec. 35-50. To £2,700. Lots of P.R. activities, etc.
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353 7696

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£2,600

Join this go-ahead advertising agency as P.A. Secretary to his Account Director. Have varied day, liaising with clients and the media. Enjoy keeping tabs on everything as well as handling the correspondence. Earn a good salary plus bonus now. Call Sandra Wren, 82[illegible] 7101
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SKILLED, pleasant and natural Secretary (23-27), with willingness to learn and progress, required by young MD of small S[illegible] international set-up. He delegates and likes to encourage all-round. Friendly, informal atmosphere. About £3,0[00]. Monica Grove Recruitment 580 6601.

P.A./AUDIO SECRETARY, 'A' levels desirable and an excellent organiser to work for Senior Executive of a National Company. Excellent W.1 offices. Age 23+. Salary £2,900+. Tel. Miss N[illegible] 584 8323. Nu-Type.

£3,000 p.a.

to assist City Lawyer. Interesting job for a secretary with excellent shorthand and typing speeds, intelligence and a sense of humour.
IBM S/C golfball typewriter. £1 L.Vs. Excellent holidays.
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Mrs. Raffles
01-628 9151

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Top Sec/PA £2750-£3200
Slough or Hammersmith. Able to drive. Some Co. Research work.
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Sec W.1 £2800
Investment Co. extending into Middle East. Previous property or solicitors background.
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Good S/hand Typing speeds. Mid 30's pref. Various Depts. Relating to medical care. Tests given.
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Interesting varied vacancy for Senior PA with good skills.
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4-5 Grosvenor Place, London SW1

هكذا من الأصل

All recruitment advertisements on this page are open to both male and female applicants.

SECRETARIAL

SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR

Salary negotiable; W.1. This is a really interesting position which will require all the secretarial skills. Keen sense of responsibility and initiative are essential. The offices are located in Oxford Street (opposite Selfridges). Apart from a competitive salary we can offer the successful applicant some interesting fringe benefits including free lunches, staff discount purchase scheme and a pension scheme.

To arrange an interview please contact

BUTLINS LIMITED
441 Oxford Street, W.1.
Tel. 01-629 6616, ext. 118

EXPERIENCED PART-TIME SECRETARY

required as soon as possible to work in scientific medicine 12-15 hours a week by arrangement. Opportunities for travel in Europe twice a year. Salary according to experience and qualifications. Apply in writing stating age and giving details of qualifications and experience to the Secretary,

GUY'S HOSPITAL MEDICAL SCHOOL
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quoting Ref. G.R.

SECRETARY
c. £3,000

SECRETARIAL

PERSONAL ASSISTANT
required for
MRS DELIA COLLINS
40 Sloane St., SW1

Applicants should possess in addition to accurate shorthand/typing, maturity, responsibility, and an organised, unflappable temperament. This is an interesting position, offering a good salary c. £3,800, together with fringe benefits. Please apply in writing, giving details of past experience, to Mrs. Delia Collins at the above address.

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FOR FRIENDLY P.R. FIRM

If you think you can cope with helping to run a small, busy public relations office, we have a job for you. The person we are looking for will have at least two years' secretarial experience and will be able to handle the routine work as well as the more exciting aspects of this varied and interesting job.
Good salary + L.V.s

Please contact Bob Cattell on 01-251 3546

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At £3,000 !

Opportunity for someone with methodical, accurate approach to work, to take over responsible Administration role at well-known SW1 company. Involves director level liaison, attendance at top meetings, etc. offers plenty of personal scope.

Miss Gibbs.
CHALLONERS,
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437 9030

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ATTRACTIVE

SECRETARIAL

SECRETARY EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

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Tempting Times

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KELLY GIRL

Tempting Times

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SENIOR SECRETARIES
175 New Bond St., W.1.
01-499 0092; 01-493 5907.
YOU'RE TOO GOOD TO BE WITHOUT A JOB.

SITUATIONS WANTED

EXPERIENCED EXECUTIVE with extensive knowledge of administration of entertainment, hotels and catering, construction and development, returned from abroad and seeking employment in Bristol/Exeter area. Provided prospects good, prepared to consider lesser position initially. Box 0548 P, The Times.

FIRST-CLASS Personal Assistant Secretary, 32, after three years in America, seeking interesting employment, Bristol/Exeter area. Car driver, G.C.E., references, etc. Box 0547 P, The Times.

HEAD BUTLER to large International Company, used to working on own initiative, seeks similar position in major company ...

FLAT SHARING

4TH GIRL, 22ish, share sunny S.W.7 flat, £36.25 p.m., 370 1703 eves.

KENSINGTON. Girl required to share pleasant flat, own room, £10 per week. 603 6675.

MAN who wants to live alone offered comfortable reasonable facsimile, W.10. 969 3210 until 5.30, 969 7317 after 7.

S.W.5. Girl, 20s, share room, £51.50 p.c.m., 589 2430 ev. ...

S.W.7. Own room 3rd person, comfortable C.H. flat, £16 p.w. 584 4758.

2ND PERSON share modern flat. Close Ealing Broadway. £65 p.c.m. incl.—998 5075 after 3 p.m.

GIRL, own room, £12 p.w., near station.—'Phone Denham 2513 after 2.30 p.m.

W.2.—Male share room luxury flat, C.h. £45 p.c.m.—723 2550, after 6 p.m.

PIED-A-TERRE. S.W.5. Suit professional. Breakfast. ...

SOUTH KENSINGTON. 2nd professional young lady required to share luxurious flat. £65 p.c.m. ...

CADOGAN PLACE. 4th girl, 20+, own room, £15 p.w. ... after 6.

S.W.6.—Couple share house; large room; £16.50.—736 6324 (eves.).

S.W.6.—Share house: 1 double, 1 single; £54.—731 0540 (eves.).

W.2. Girl, 20+, own room, family home low rent. ...

3RD GIRL, 24+, c.h. flat, N.W.2, near tube, £40 p.c.m. ...

SPACIOUS DOUBLE in W.2 luxury house. £10.50 p.w. each. Short lease. ...

S.W.10.—3rd girl grad., £15 p.w. ...

S.W.7.—Own large room in flat. £50 p.c.m.—373 4965 eves.

S.W.5.—Male to share room in friendly, spacious flat. £36 p.c.m. ...

MAYFAIR.—Luxury flat. Single girl to share with 1 other. Own room. £... p.w. and returnable deposit. ... 1811.

KENSINGTON.—Male share room. £30 p.c.m. 727 0472 eves.

NEW LUXURY FLAT.—Girl to share room. £10.50 p.w. incl. ...

HAMPSTEAD.—Single room. £... p.c.m. incl. ...

LOOKING FOR OWN ROOM ?—Executive Flatsharers. ...

COUPLE to share house in Wembley. £10.20 pw. ...

CIVILISED W.1 FLAT. 3rd and 4th sought. Own rooms, c.h., colour T.V., period furniture, piano, etc. £... p.c.m. Telephone ... after 6 p.m.

FLATMATES Specialists —313 Brompton Rd., S.W.3. 589 5491.

SHARE-A-FLAT. Now Cheaper for Landlords—no more flats' ... 1365.

FLAT SHARE, 213 Piccadilly, 734 0318. Professional people sharing.

HAMPSTEAD.—Sunny Bed-sit, in pleasant area. £9.—435 9506.

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STANMORE

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RENTALS

Unfurnished 2nd Floor Mansion Flat

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ALSO

BACHELOR FLAT: ST JAMES ST., S.W.1. Recept. room, bedroom, k. & b., lift, porterage. Unexpired lease 1½ yrs. Rent £950 p.a. Price for f. & f. £2,500.

ALEXANDER STEPHENS & CO., 01-930 7133 or 01-839 3101.

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Semi-detached, 3 bedroomed house, with through lounge, bathroom, separate w.c., central heating, garage, garden, close tube and schools. Minimum 1 year. £45 p.w.

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LUXURY SERVICED SHORT LETS. MARBLE ARCH, exclusive block, 4 beds., double recep., kit., 2 baths., £180 p.w. HYDE PARK, mod. block, 2 beds., recep., kit. & 2 bath., £110 p.w. CHELSEA, superb house, 5 beds., 2 recep., ...

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BENSTEAD
PORTABLE
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C. P. HART & SONS LTD.

LIQUIDATION STOCK

CYPRUS
Amathus Beach Hotel
Limassol

ULTRA PORTABLE ...

(continued on page 32)

Broadcasting

There should be something to suit everyone's tastes tonight, ranging from the mildly titillating last episode of Rock Follies (ITV 9.0), through the fascinating Inside Story (BBC2 8.15) of the Stock Exchange to the enthralling One Man and his Dog (BBC2 9.0) which is an object lesson in training man's best friend. A Little Bit of Wisdom (ITV 7.5) finds Norman Wisdom still trying to discover the right vehicle for his comic talents, while Play for Today (BBC1 9.25) has pop star Paul Nicholas holding the ... *A Matter of Life* (ITV 10.30) is the first of three disturbing medical programmes, this time dealing with a brain operation, Drive-in (ITV 11.30) hits the road again testing the car of the year, and sports fans can pick the winners in racing from Sandown (ITV 3.0) or The Snail, the Diplomat and the Chase (BBC1 ...).—T.S.

BBC 2

6.40 am, Open University: Cognitive Maps; 7.05, Soviet Agriculture; 7.30-7.55, School and Society. 11.00, Play School. 11.25-11.50, Open University: Industrial Relations. 3.00-3.25 pm, All In the Mind. 5.00, Open University: Ford Interview (1); 5.25, Nature of Digital Computing; 5.50, Looking at Napoleon; 6.15, Genetics; 6.40, Science. 7.05, Ensemble.
7.30 Newsday.
7.50 Book Programme with Germaine Greer, Kit Pedler, T. P. McKenna.
8.15 Inside Story: the London Stock Exchange.
9.00 One Man and His Dog.
9.25 The Man Alive Report: Sexual pressures on the under-16s.
10.15 The Old Grey Whistle Test.
10.55 Newsnight.
11.20-11.25, Stephen Thorne reads The Last Clean Bough, by James Aitchison.

Thames

9.55 am, Wait Till Your Father Gets Home. 10.20, Dusty's Trail. 10.45, Farouk, Last of the Pharaohs. 11.35, Galloping Gourmet. 12.00, Paperplay. 12.10 pm, Hickory House. 12.30, Treasures in Store. 1.00, News. 1.20, Lunchtime Today. 1.30, Emmerdale Farm. 2.00, Good Afternoon. 2.30, Crown Court. 3.00, Racing From Sandown Park. 3.55, General Hospital. 4.25, Arrows. 4.50, Magpie. 5.20, Nanny and the Professor.
5.50 News. 6.00, Today.
6.40 Crossroads.
7.05 A Little Bit of Wisdom.
7.35 Film: Target Risk with Bo Svenson, Meredith Baxter.
9.00 Rock Follies.
10.00 News.
10.30 A Matter of Life.
11.30 Drive-in.
12.00-1.00 am, Barnaby Jones.

ATV

10.30 am, Wait Till Your Father Gets Home. 10.55, The Rules of the Game. 11.20, London Nobody Knows. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, ATV News. 1.30, Thames. 5.20, Spiderman. 5.50, News. 6.00, ATV Today. 6.35, Thames. 7.30, Cartoon. 7.45, McMillan and Wife. 9.00, Thames. 11.30-12.00, Angling.

Southern

10.00 am, Film: Gidget Goes Hawaiian, with James Darren, Michael Callan, Deborah Walley. 11.35, In Search of Geordie. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Southern News. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Houseparty. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, Bugs Bunny. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Day by Day. 6.45, A Little Bit of Wisdom. 7.15, Film: The Man from Colorado, with Glenn Ford, William Holden. 9.00, Thames. 12.00, Southern News. 12.10 am, Weather. Guideline.

Yorkshire

10.35 am, Ed Allen. 10.55, Hammy Hamster. 11.05, Untamed World. 11.35, Skippy. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, Calendar News. 1.30, Survival. 2.00, Thames. 5.20, Emmerdale Farm. 5.50, News. 6.00, Calendar. 6.35, Thames. 7.30, Cartoon. 7.35, Columbo. 9.00, Thames. 11.30, The Odd Couple. 11.55-12.10 am, Easter Questions.

Granada

9.30 am, Sesame Street. 10.25, Skippy. 10.50, A Place to Live. 11.05, Superman. 11.25, A Big Country. 12.00, Thames. 1.20 pm, This Is Your Right. 1.30, Thames. 5.15, Stamp Stories.* 5.20, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Granada Reports. 6.35, The Adventurer. 7.05, Thames. 7.35, McMillan and Wife. 9.00, Thames. 11.30-12.30 am, Boney. * Black and white.

Scottish

10.00 am, Man and his World. 10.15, Thrillseekers. 10.40, Department S. 11.30, In Search of Geordie. 12.00, Thames. 1.25 pm, Road Report. 1.30, Thames. 2.00, Houseparty. 2.30, Thames. 5.20, Professor Kitzel. 5.25, Crossroads. 5.50, News. 6.00, Scotland Today. 6.30, Adam 12. 7.00, Film: Carry On, Don't Lose Your Head. 8.30, Marie Gordon-Price. 9.00, Thames. 11.30, Late Call. 11.35-12.05 am, The Odd Couple.

Radio

Motor Show Place

Full page Mercedes advertisement see page 3

MERCEDES CLASSIC
Perfect one-owner coupe
£2,770
Tel. 0206 37 228

USED CARS

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1973 600 Saloon. Metallic Blue, velour interior, sun-roof £11,250

1975 240 Diesel. Aqua Blue, beige interior £4,650

1975 240 Diesel. Dark Blue, parchment cloth, manual gearbox and steering £4,325

1975 220 Diesel. Aqua Blue, bench seat, manual gearbox and steering £4,150

1975 200 Diesel. Pastel White, manual gearbox and steering £3,495

1974 230/4. White, manual gearbox, ...

WOKING MOTORS
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28811

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ALSO ON PAGE 31

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(continued on page 31)

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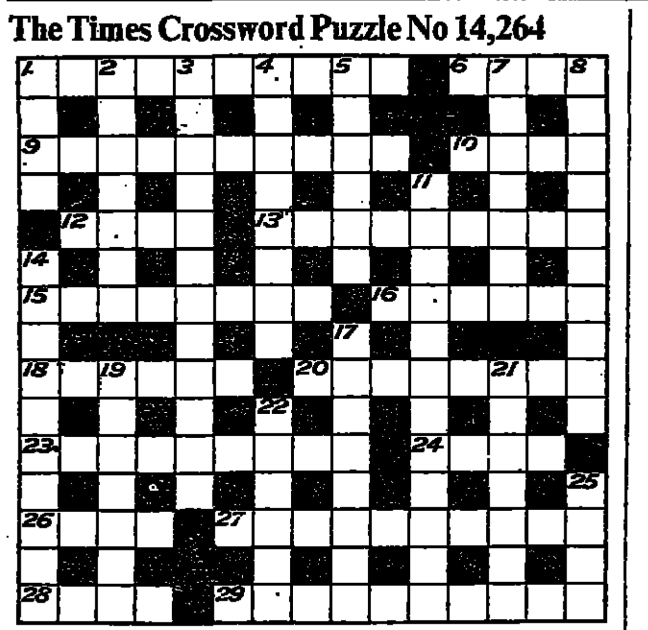
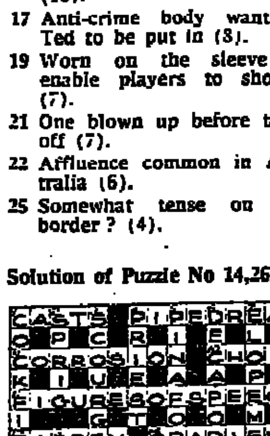
The Times Crossword Puzzle No 14,264



ACROSS
1 Boy meets girl? His work is more complex (5, 5).
6 White flower associated with honey (4).
9 What Ulysses' rival tried to do, mean fellow (5-5).
10 A story may well have begun with it, once before (4).
12 Impress in monetary circles as economist (4).
13 He may be picked now, after reflection (9).
15 Brief statement made by a PM or his replacement (8).
16 Opener in depressed state about duck (6).
18 A tricky chap we encounter out West (6).
20 Reappear in two mutually descriptive parts (8).
23 Watch for unfinished newspaper article (9).
... inite to right a wrong (4).
... ile brains (4).
... low the careless editor covered his wall? (10).
28 A princess in opera (4).
29 A profound subject, love between boy and girl (10).

DOWN
1 Oriental understands oriental type joke (4).
2 Like a creature of habit (7).
... ards could make ... sly (12).
... prison where ... from coppers ... tyle (8).
5 Moderates involved in recent disturbance (6).
7 Picasso initially explains his position in this style of painting (7).
8 The highest thing on board in the station (5, 5).
11 Day-to-day service? (8, 4).
14 Rapid steps Italians took to counter venomous attacks (10).
17 Anti-crime body wants a Ted to be put in (8).
19 Worn on the sleeve to enable players to shoot? (7).
21 One blown up before take-off (7).
22 Affluence common in Australia (6).
25 Somewhat tense on the border? (4).

Solution of Puzzle No 14,263



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